美味しんぼ

14

雁屋 哲・花咲アキラ

スピリッツコミックス好評発売中／

美味しんぼ（雁屋哲・花咲アキラ）… 1～46集
神の左手悪魔の右手（楳図かずお）… 1～6集
男樹（本宮ひろ志）……1～6集
以蔵のキモチ（佐藤宏之）……1～3集
14歳（楳図かずお）……1～14集
りぴんぐゲーム（星里もちる）……全10巻
結婚しようよ（星里もちる）……1～2集
俺節（土田世紀）……全9巻
編集王（土田世紀）……1集
ＤＩＮＯ〈ディーノ〉（柳沢きみお）…1～11集
ギャラリーフェイク（細野不二彦）…1～3集
ワタナベ（窪之内英策）……全3巻
やったろうじゃん!!（原秀則）……1～9集
僕らはみんな生きている（一色伸幸・山本直樹）…全4巻
トラキーヨ（吉田聡）……全6巻
東京大学物語（江川達也）……1～5集
ヤングマン（六田登）……1～5集
いいひと。（高橋しん）……1～4集
月下の棋士（能條純一）……1～4集
100億の男（国友やすゆき）……1～3集
Happy／（浦沢直樹）……1～2集
10月の満月に一番近い土曜日（石渡治）…全1巻

装丁／海野一雄
カバー・フォト／菊地和男

BIG COMICS

美味しんぼ 14

母なるりんご

作・雁屋 哲 画・花咲アキラ

小学館

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雁屋 哲 花咲アキラ 著作集

■ビッグコミックス

美味しんぼ……1～46集発売中

■スピリッツコミックス好評発売中／■

YAWARA！（浦沢直樹）……全29巻
めぞん一刻（高橋留美子）……全15巻
妻をめとらば（柳沢きみお）……全15巻
F〈エフ〉（六田登）……全28巻
かぼちゃ白書（六田登・タモツ）……全1巻
赤い鳩〈アビル〉（小池一夫・池上遼一）……全6巻
OFFERED（小池一夫・池上遼一）……全4巻
スローニン（吉田聡）……全4巻
ZERO（松本大洋）……全2巻
花男（松本大洋）……全3巻
ハーフな分だけ（星里もちる）……全2巻
りざべーしょんプリーズ（細野不二彦）全2巻
あどりぶシネ倶楽部（細野不二彦）……全1巻
うにばーしてぃBOYS（細野不二彦） 全1巻
美紅・舞子（西村しのぶ）……全1巻
なぜか笑介（聖日出夫）……全29巻
ツルモク独身寮（窪之内英策）……全11巻
原色恋愛図鑑（松苗あけみ）……全1巻
天使派リョウ（狩撫麻礼・中村真理子）……全10巻
ギィルティ（狩撫麻礼・中村真理子）…全3巻
ジパング少年（いわしげ孝）……全15巻
マドンナ（くじらいいく子）……全22巻
ショウ！（くじらいいく子）……全4巻
青い春一松本大洋短編集（松本大洋）……全1巻
スイートルーム（小池一夫・香川大八）……全4巻
出直しといで！（一色まこと）……全6巻
イオナ（澤井健）……全9巻

美味しんぼ

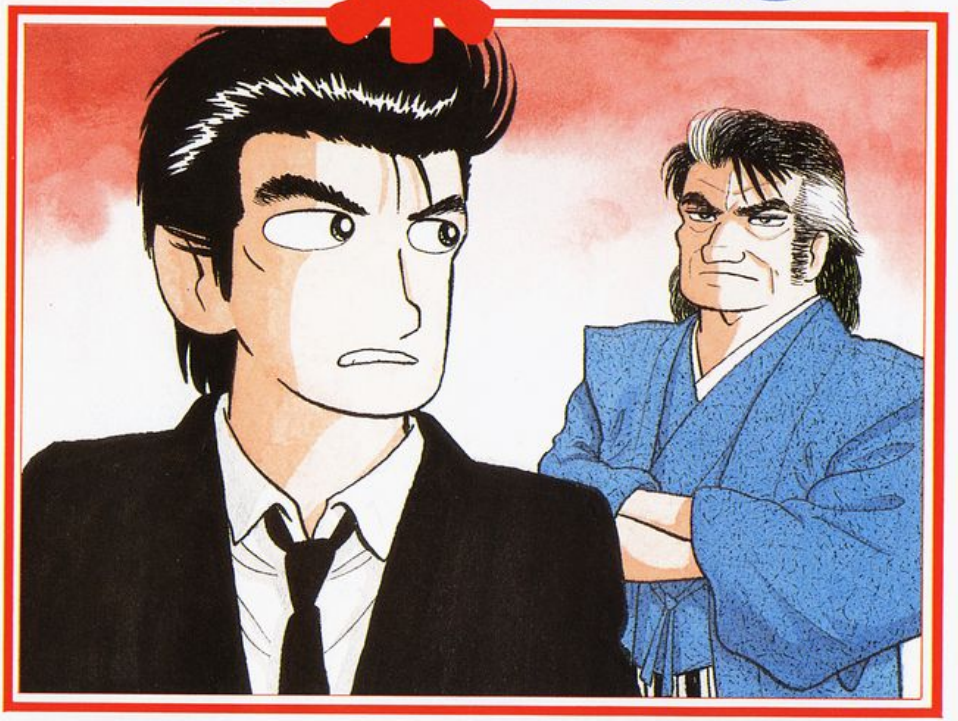
14 母なるりんご

作・雁屋 哲
画・花咲アキラ

14 母なるりんご

アップルパイとアップルティー。「紅玉」使用。
本書中のアップルティーは、りんごの皮を煮た湯で入れた紅茶で、市販のそれとは異なる。

美味(おい)しんぼ



美味(おい)しんぼ

14 母なるりんご

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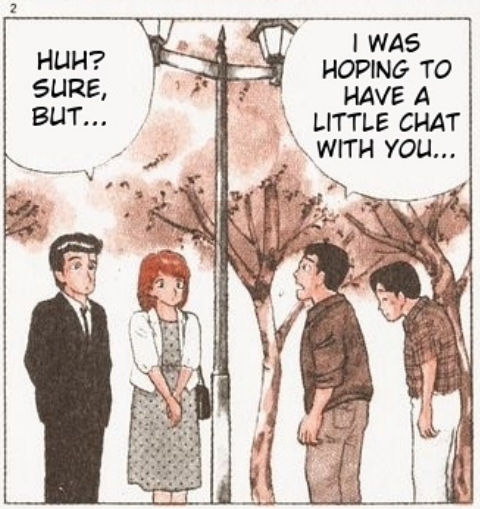
第1話

北海の幸

HEY!
RYOZO-SAN!

OH, YAMAOKA-SAN, KURITA-SAN.

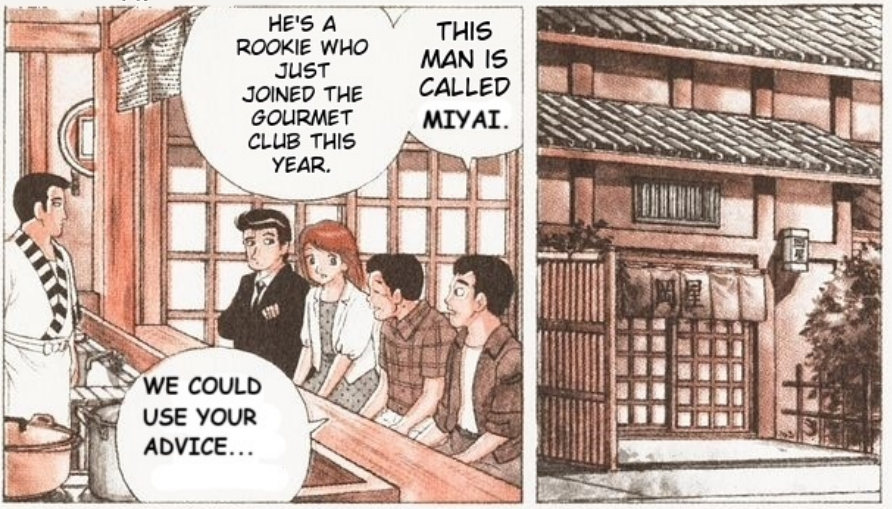
2

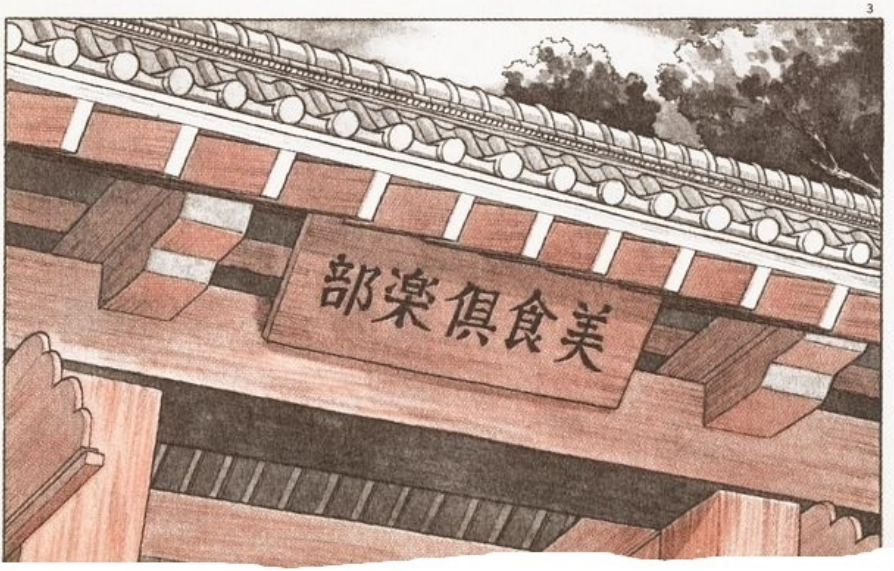

HUH? SURE, BUT...
I WAS HOPING TO HAVE A LITTLE CHAT WITH YOU...

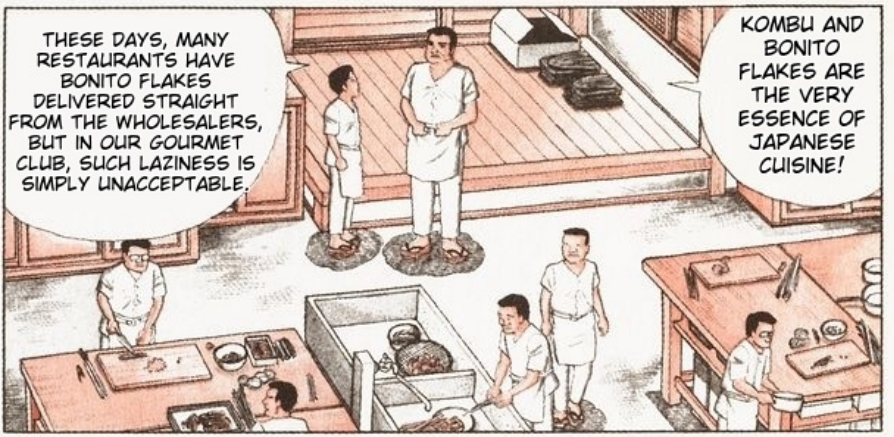
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
WHAT HAPPENED...?

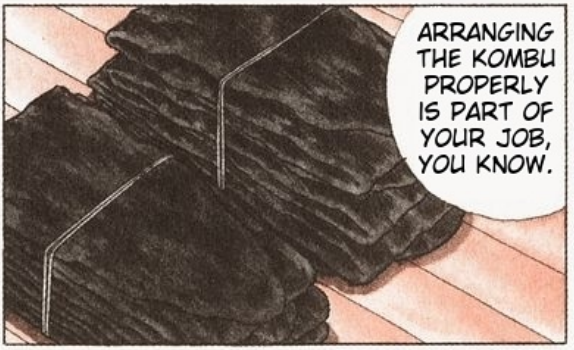
WELL, YOU SEE...

THE DELICIOUS SAGA CONTINUES IN VOLUME 14!






THESE DAYS, MANY RESTAURANTS HAVE BONITO FLAKES DELIVERED STRAIGHT FROM THE WHOLESALERS, BUT IN OUR GOURMET CLUB, SUCH LAZINESS IS SIMPLY UNACCEPTABLE.
KOMBU AND BONITO FLAKES ARE THE VERY ESSENCE OF JAPANESE CUISINE!

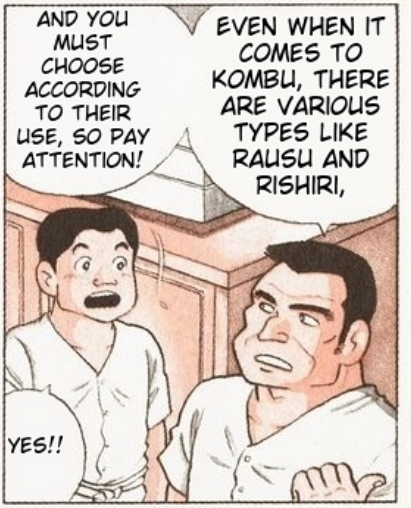

ARRANGING THE KOMBU PROPERLY IS PART OF YOUR JOB, YOU KNOW.

ABSOLUTELY!!

4

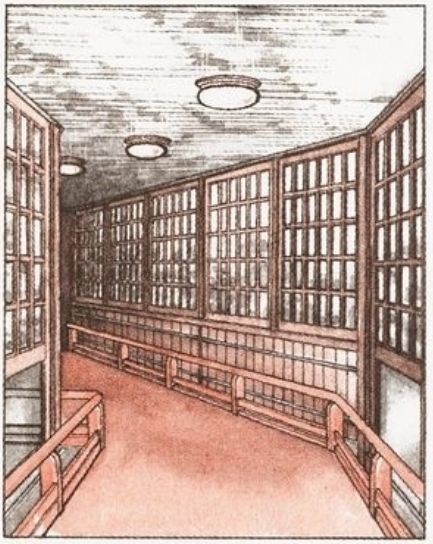
SOMEONE! PLEASE, SHAVE THE BONITO FLAKES!

ABSOLUTELY!!
COME ON, THIS IS YOUR TASK!


AND YOU MUST CHOOSE ACCORDING TO THEIR USE, SO PAY ATTENTION!
EVEN WHEN IT COMES TO KOMBU, THERE ARE VARIOUS TYPES LIKE RAUSU AND RISHIRI,
YES!!

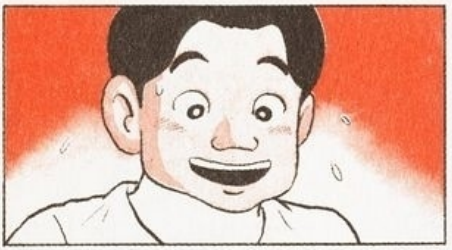
THE DELICIOUS SAGA CONTINUES IN VOLUME 14!

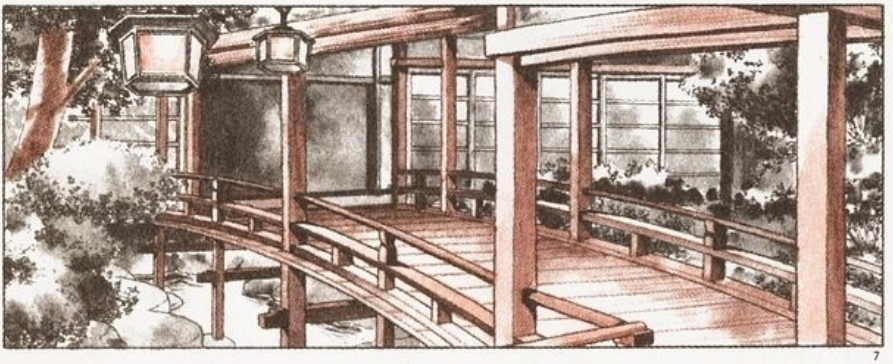
5



ALRIGHT.
HOLD ON.
TOASTING TEA IS QUITE THE ART! IF IT'S UNDER-TOASTED, IT TASTES GRASSY; OVERDO IT, AND IT'LL SMELL BURNT.
HMM, TOASTING THE LEAVES JUST BEFORE BREWING...
THIS TOASTING TECHNIQUE IS TRULY REMARKABLE.
WHO MADE THIS TEA?
I DID, SIR...
6
THANK YOU SO MUCH!
FROM NOW ON, YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF BREWING THE HOJICHA.

THE DELICIOUS SAGA CONTINUES IN VOLUME 14!



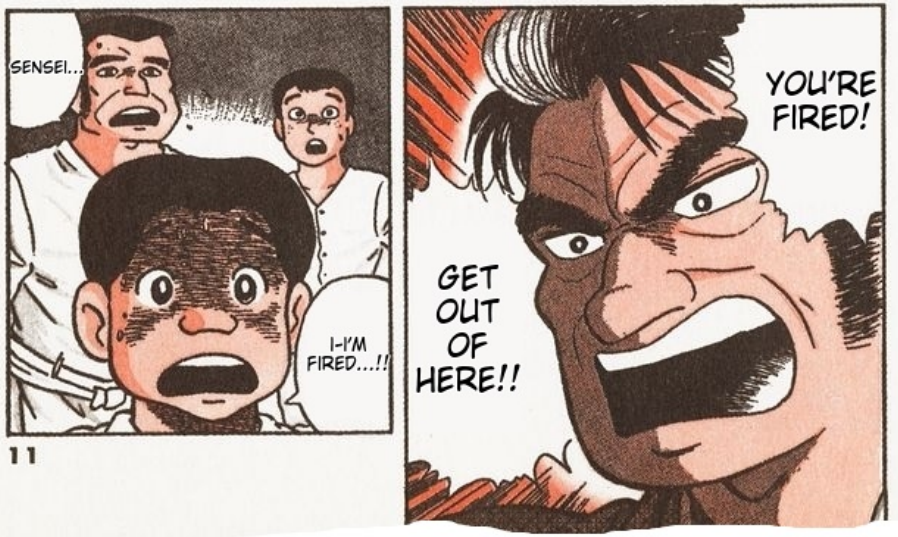


7

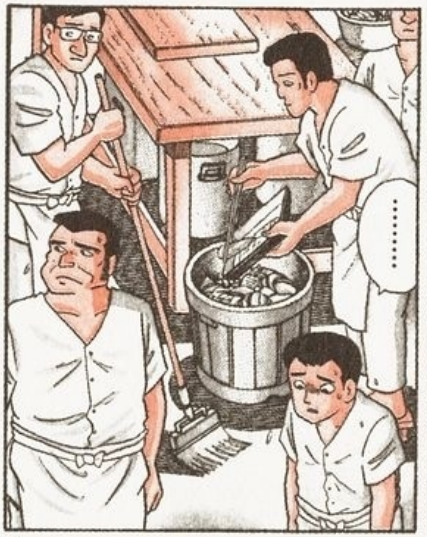
WHOA!
A COCKROACH...
COULD IT BE THAT COCKROACH JUST NOW?!?
OH NO! THERE'S A HOLE IN THE KELP!
OH...
WHAT'S GOING ON?

THE DELICIOUS SAGA CONTINUES IN VOLUME 14!

9



YOU FILTHY LOT DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE HOW DIRTY IT WAS! YOU'RE UNWORTHY OF COOKING!
NOW, EVERYONE, GET TO THE KITCHEN AND CLEAN IT UP! TODAY, WE'RE SHUTTING DOWN!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ダッ

10

TO THINK THE KOMBU WAS NIBBLED BY COCKROACHES!!
WHAT A DISGRACEFUL EMBARRASSMENT...

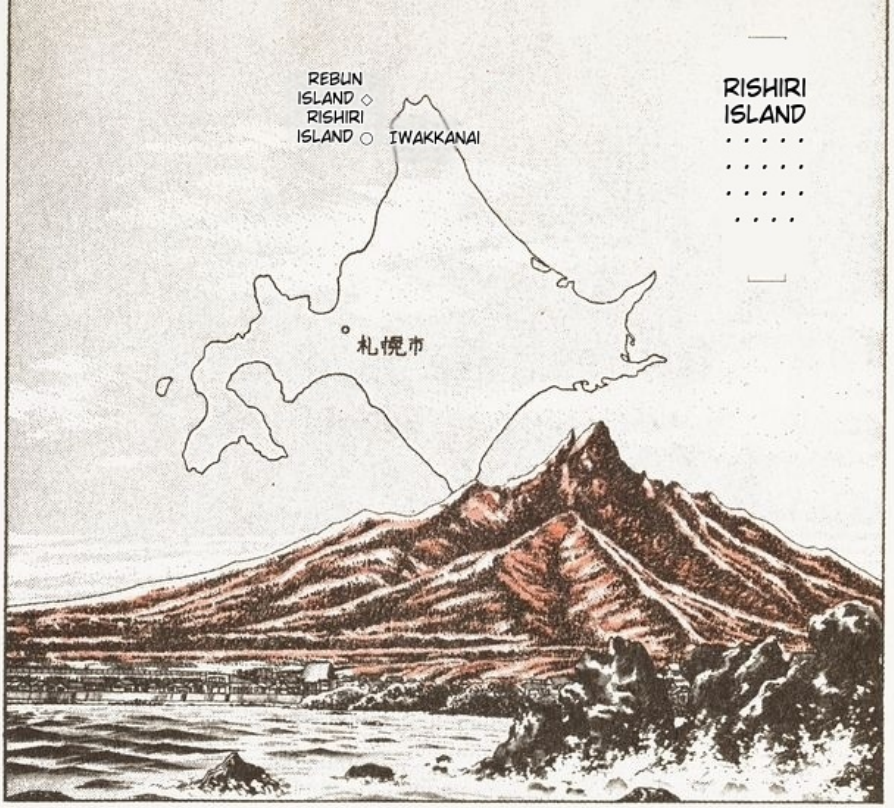
THE DELICIOUS SAGA CONTINUES IN VOLUME 14!

11

FOR US CHEFS, IT FEELS LIKE WE'RE IN A DAILY BATTLE AGAINST COCKROACHES!
WITH THAT FLAT LITTLE BODY, IT CAN SLIP IN THROUGH THE TINIEST CRACKS....
WELL, NO MATTER HOW THOROUGHLY YOU CLEAN, THOSE COCKROACHES WILL STILL SHOW UP!
WELL, WE JUST RECEIVED SOME EXQUISITE SEA URCHIN FROM RISHIRI IN HOKKAIDO!
WELL, LET'S TAKE A BREATHER AND ENJOY SOME SEA URCHIN, SHALL WE?
BUT WHY DID KAIBARA YUZAN ASK FOR MIYAI-SAN TO BE CALLED BACK...?
HE PROBABLY JUST WANTED TO TORMENT HIM SOME MORE...
!
RISHIRI'S SEA URCHIN, HUH...
INDEED, THE SEA URCHIN FROM HOKKAIDO IS TRULY REMARKABLE.
WOW, SUCH VIBRANT COLORS! ABSOLUTELY STUNNING.

12

THE DELICIOUS SAGA CONTINUES IN VOLUME 14!



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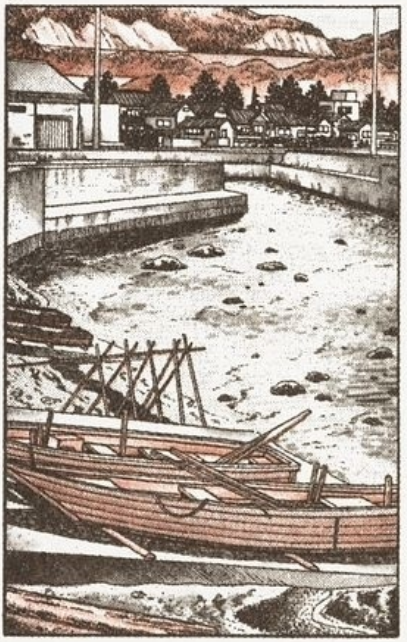
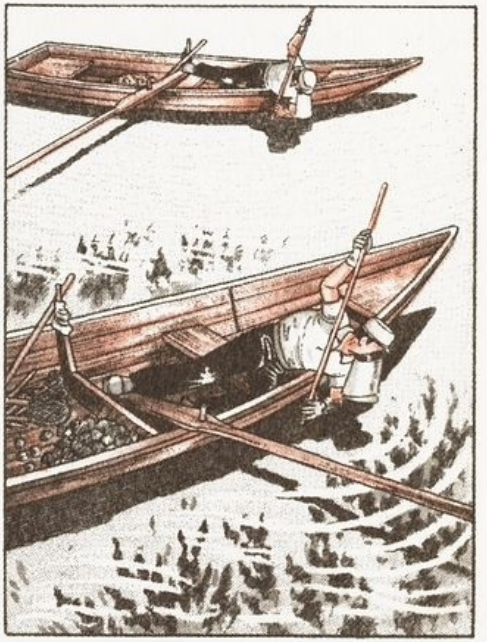
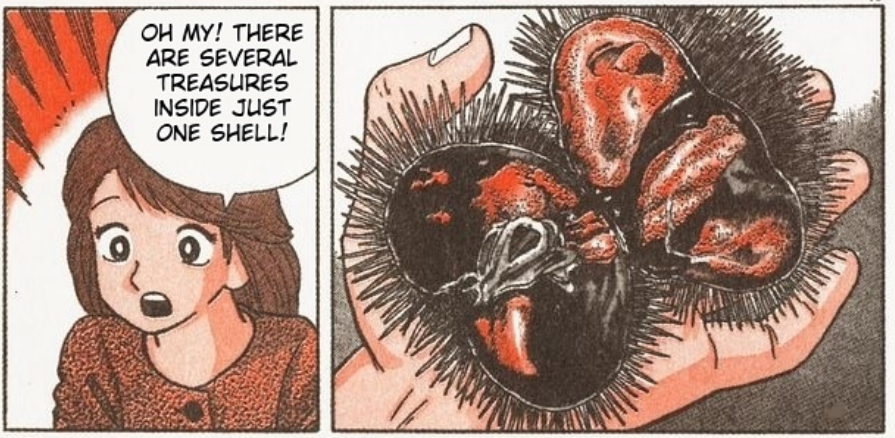
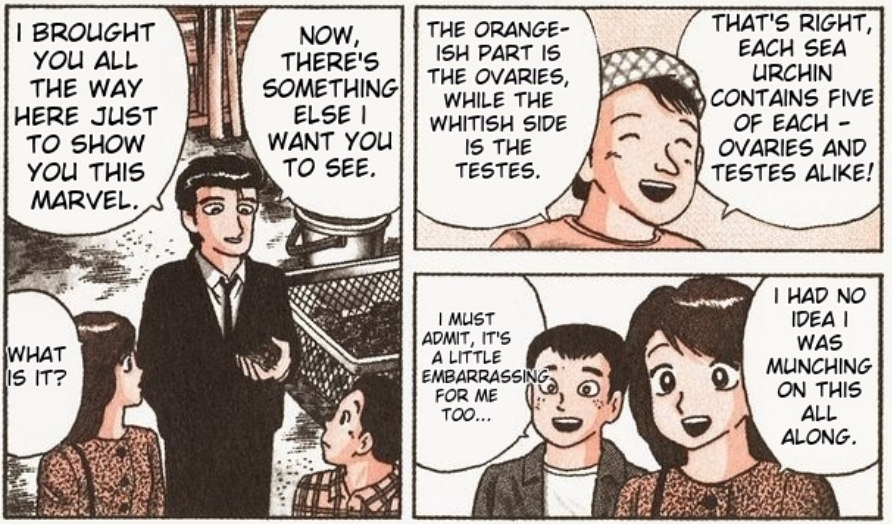


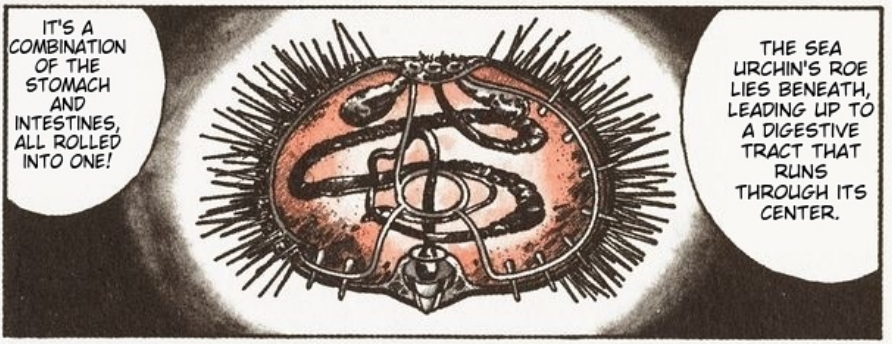


THE DELICIOUS SAGA CONTINUES IN VOLUME 14!

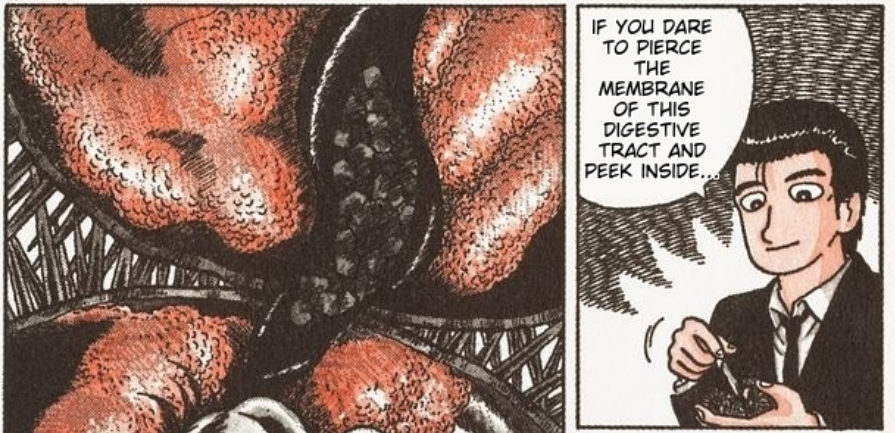
15



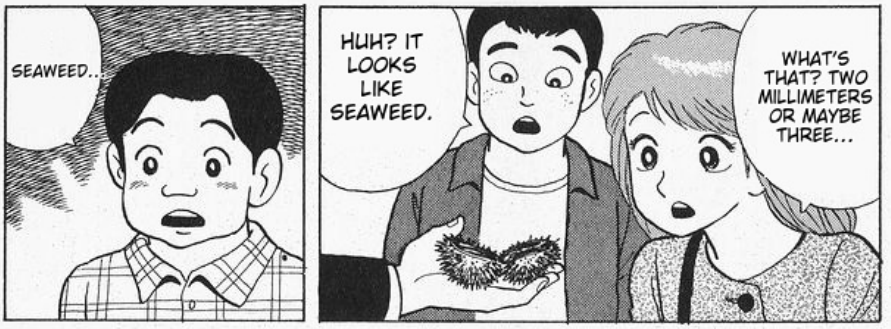

I BROUGHT YOU ALL THE WAY HERE JUST TO SHOW YOU THIS MARVEL.
NOW, THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE I WANT YOU TO SEE.
WHAT IS IT?
THE ORANGE-ISH PART IS THE OVARIES, WHILE THE WHITISH SIDE IS THE TESTES.
THAT'S RIGHT, EACH SEA URCHIN CONTAINS FIVE OF EACH - OVARIES AND TESTES ALIKE!
I MUST ADMIT, IT'S A LITTLE EMBARRASSING FOR ME TOO...
I HAD NO IDEA I WAS MUNCHING ON THIS ALL ALONG.

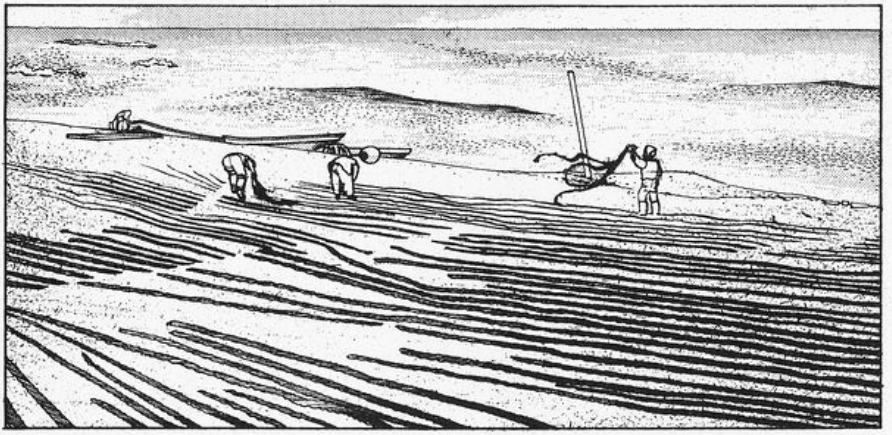

IT'S A COMBINATION OF THE STOMACH AND INTESTINES, ALL ROLLED INTO ONE!
THE SEA URCHIN'S ROE LIES BENEATH, LEADING UP TO A DIGESTIVE TRACT THAT RUNS THROUGH ITS CENTER.

16


IF YOU DARE TO PIERCE THE MEMBRANE OF THIS DIGESTIVE TRACT AND PEEK INSIDE...

THE DELICIOUS SAGA CONTINUES IN VOLUME 14!





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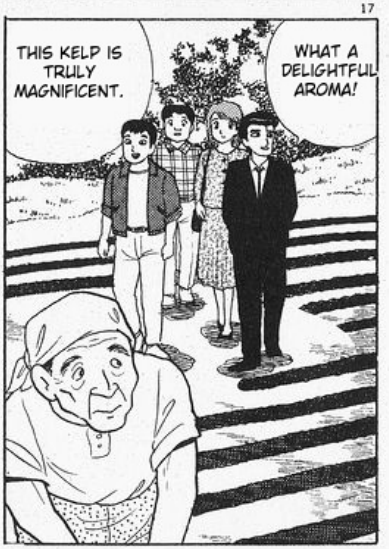
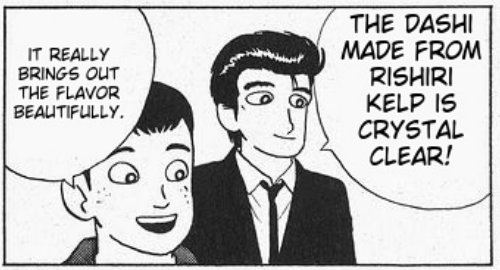
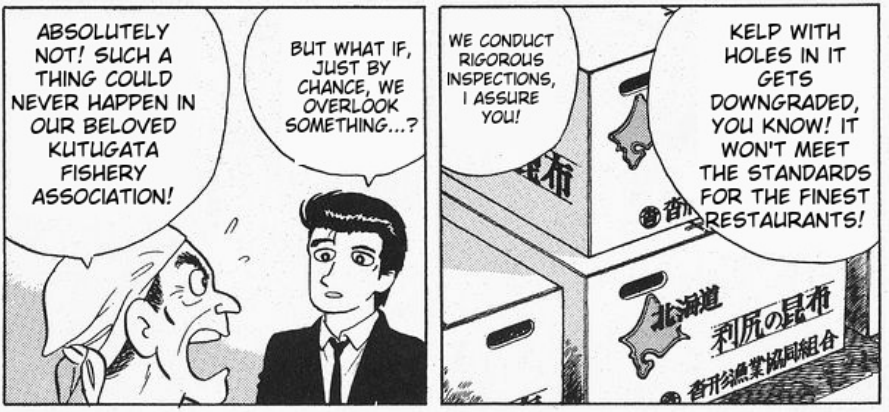




LOOK AT THIS, RIGHT HERE.
OH YEAH, THAT'S TRUE,
BY THE WAY, I HEAR THERE'S SUCH A THING AS BUG-EATEN KOMBU...
IT'S JUST LIKE THE HOLES MIYAI SAID A COCKROACH MADE IN HIS KOMBU!
AHH!
18
WHAT?! A SEA URCHIN?!
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS, THIS WAS NIBBLED BY A SEA URCHIN.
WHAT? A COCKROACH?

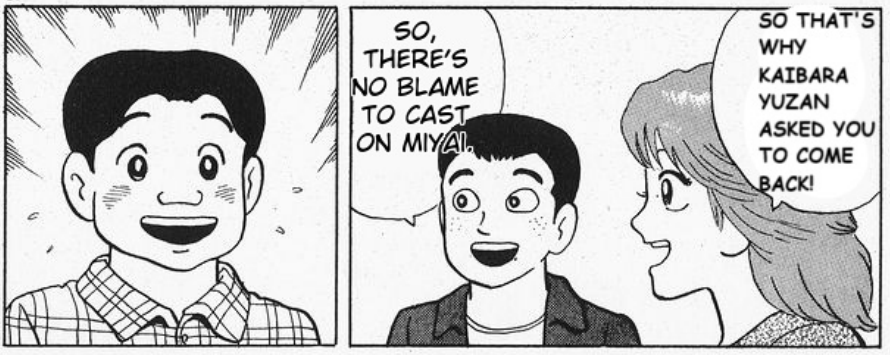
THE DELICIOUS SAGA CONTINUES IN VOLUME 14!

19

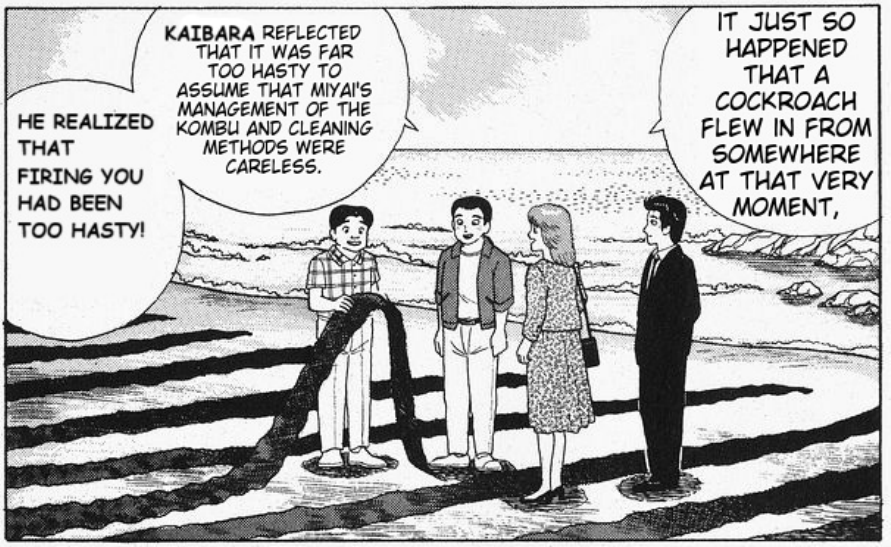


DOESN'T IT ADD TO THE CHARM?
WELL, WELL!
EVEN IF THERE'S ONE PIECE OF KELP WITH SEA URCHIN HOLES AMONG COUNTLESS SHEETS,
...THAT SAID,
ONLY A SEA URCHIN, WITH ITS MOUTH WHERE IT IS, WOULD START MUNCHING IN THE MIDDLE.
COCKROACHES START MUNCHING ON THE EDGES...
AND THE OVERLOOKED SEA URCHIN-INFESTED KELP FOUND ITS WAY TO MIYAI-KUN, SPARKING THE COMMOTION.
THE IMPROBABLE COINCIDENCES PILED UP,

20


SO, THERE'S NO BLAME TO CAST ON MIYAI.
SO THAT'S WHY KAIBARA YUZAN ASKED YOU TO COME BACK!

THE DELICIOUS SAGA CONTINUES IN VOLUME 14!



21

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS ALL THIS COMMOTION? CUT IT OUT, WILL YOU?!
PLEASE, HELP ME!
TOMII-SAN!, HELP US OUT!

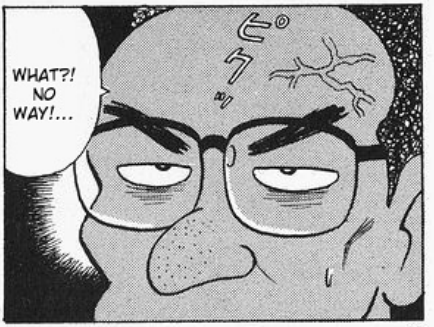
バカ

22

HOW COULD YOU SAY SOMETHING SO OUTRAGEOUS?! I CAN'T STAND IT!
WHEN I MENTIONED THAT I WANTED TO SAVOR SOME DELICIOUS SEA URCHIN, BOTH YAMAOKA AND KURITA JUST...

WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING ON HERE...?

I'VE EATEN SO MUCH SEA URCHIN THIS WEEK THAT I CAN'T STAND ANYMORE!!!

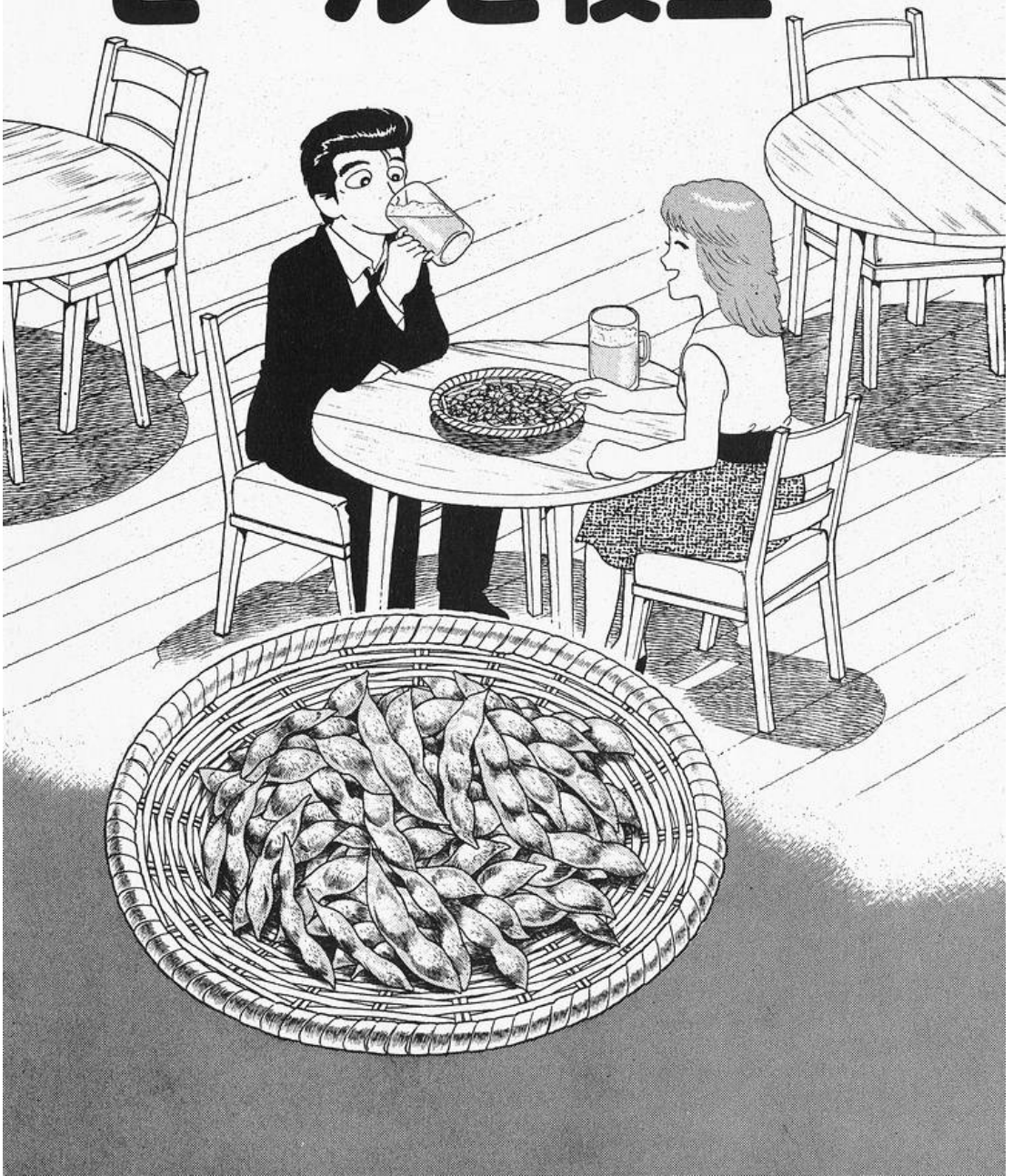

WHAT?! NO WAY!...

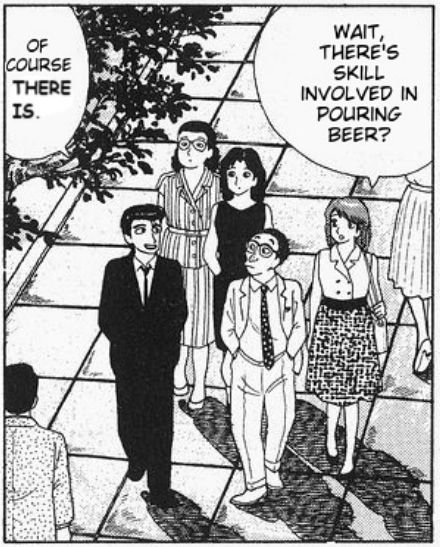
23

EVERYONE! DON'T LET THESE TWO LEAVE THE OFFICE ALIVE!!

第2話

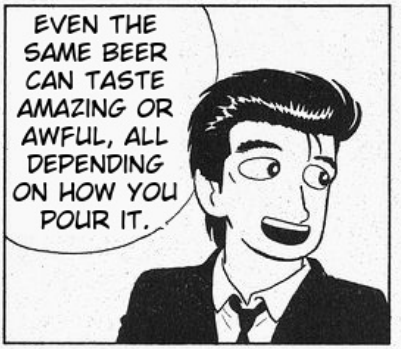
ビールと枝豆




OF COURSE THERE IS.
WAIT, THERE'S SKILL INVOLVED IN POURING BEER?

NEC
WOW! A MASTER OF POURING BEER, YOU SAY?!
銀行
OHKAMI

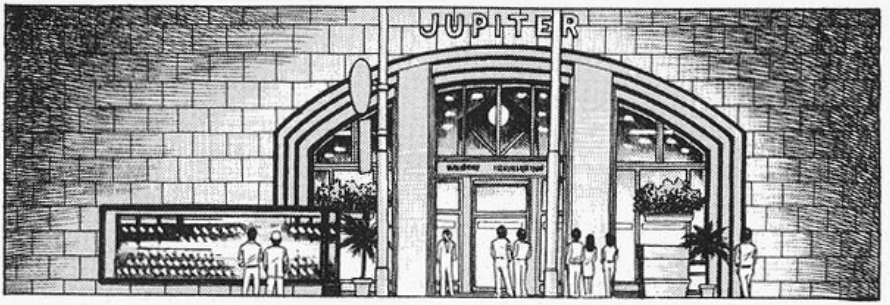
AND SNEAKS A SPLASH INTO THE BEER WHILE POURING IT?!
LIKE, WHAT IF THAT SO-CALLED 'MASTER' HAS A SECRET STASH OF BRANDY OR SOMETHING,


EVEN THE SAME BEER CAN TASTE AMAZING OR AWFUL, ALL DEPENDING ON HOW YOU POUR IT.

2

OKAY, THIS SOUNDS KINDA FUN.
I CAN'T WAIT TO TRY A BEER POURED BY THIS MASTER!

JUST COME ON ALREADY--YOU'LL UNDERSTAND ONCE YOU TASTE IT!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

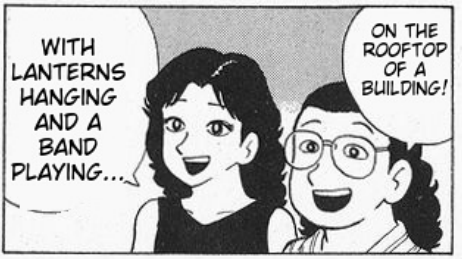

JUPITER

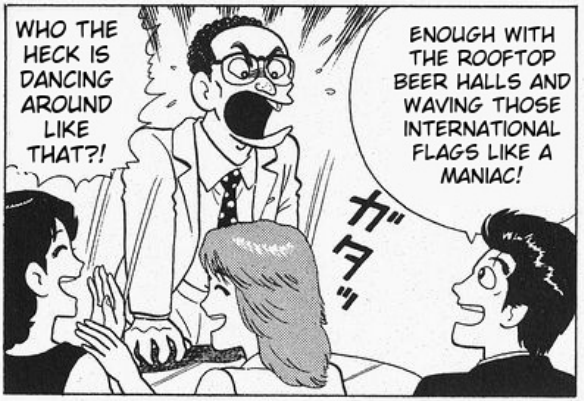
HEY, WHAT AM I, A WORM OR SOMETHING?!
ESPECIALLY SINCE TOMII-SAN HAS BEEN BAR CRAWLING THROUGH GINZA FOR YEARS!
SURPRISING THAT IT'S EVERYONE'S FIRST TIME AT THIS PLACE.

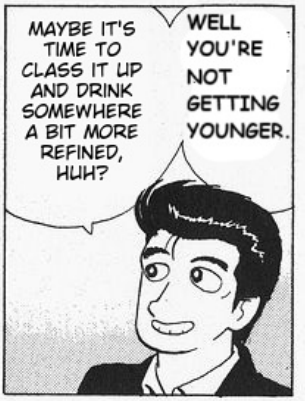
YEAH, YEAH, HAWAIIAN OR SOMETHING, RIGHT?!
IT'S HAWAIIAN, THEY SAY!
WHOO-HOO-EE!

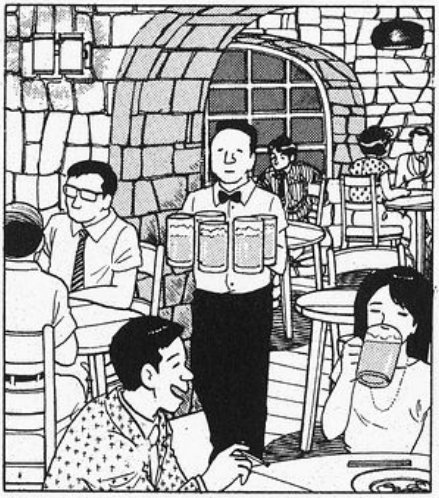
WHEN I THINK OF A BEER HALL...
WELL, I KNEW THE NAME, BUT IT ALWAYS SEEMED A BIT TOO FANCY FOR MY TASTE.

3


WITH LANTERNS HANGING AND A BAND PLAYING...
ON THE ROOFTOP OF A BUILDING!

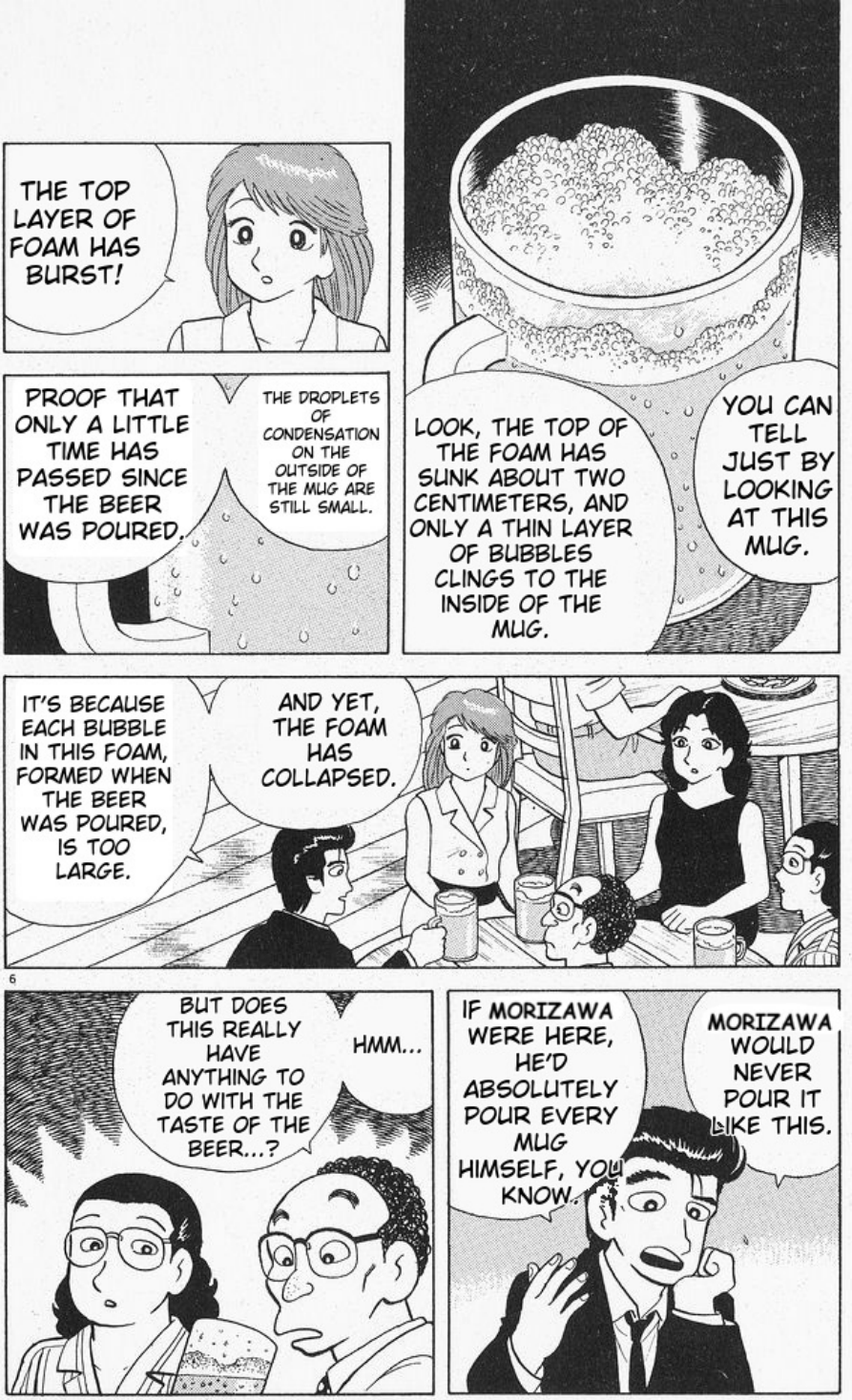




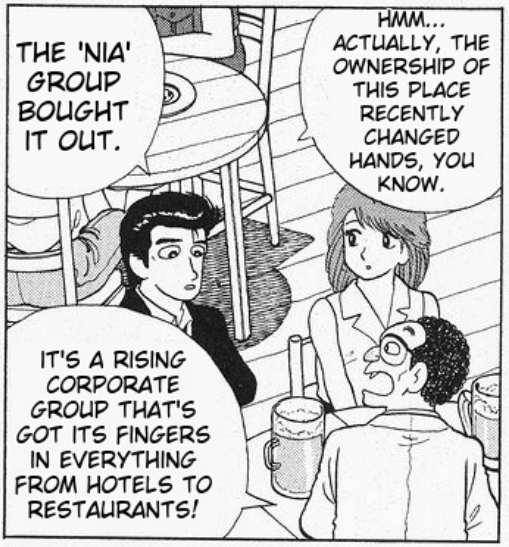


*TL NOTE: I DIDN'T KNOW CORN DOGS WERE A THING IN JAPAN IN THE 80S... YOU LEARN SOMETHING NEW EVERY DAY.

FIRST, LET'S GULP DOWN A BIG CHEER!
ALRIGHT!
MR. MORIZAWA SEEMS TO BE OFF TODAY.
N-NO... NOTHING...
DID A BUG GET IN OR SOMETHING?
MR. YAMAOKA, WHAT'S WRONG?
5
I CAME TO SEE IF THE WAY BEER IS POURED REALLY CHANGES THE TASTE...
OH DEAR... THEN THERE'S NO POINT IN BEING HERE TODAY.
HE'S THE MANAGER HERE, THE FAMOUS BEER-POURING MASTER.
BUT HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT THE MASTER IS OFF TODAY?


THE TOP LAYER OF FOAM HAS BURST!
YOU CAN TELL JUST BY LOOKING AT THIS MUG.
LOOK, THE TOP OF THE FOAM HAS SUNK ABOUT TWO CENTIMETERS, AND ONLY A THIN LAYER OF BUBBLES CLINGS TO THE INSIDE OF THE MUG.
THE DROPLETS OF CONDENSATION ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE MUG ARE STILL SMALL.
PROOF THAT ONLY A LITTLE TIME HAS PASSED SINCE THE BEER WAS POURED.
AND YET, THE FOAM HAS COLLAPSED.
IT'S BECAUSE EACH BUBBLE IN THIS FOAM, FORMED WHEN THE BEER WAS POURED, IS TOO LARGE.
6
MORIZAWA WOULD NEVER POUR IT LIKE THIS.
IF MORIZAWA WERE HERE, HE'D ABSOLUTELY POUR EVERY MUG HIMSELF, YOU KNOW.
HMM...
BUT DOES THIS REALLY HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE TASTE OF THE BEER...?

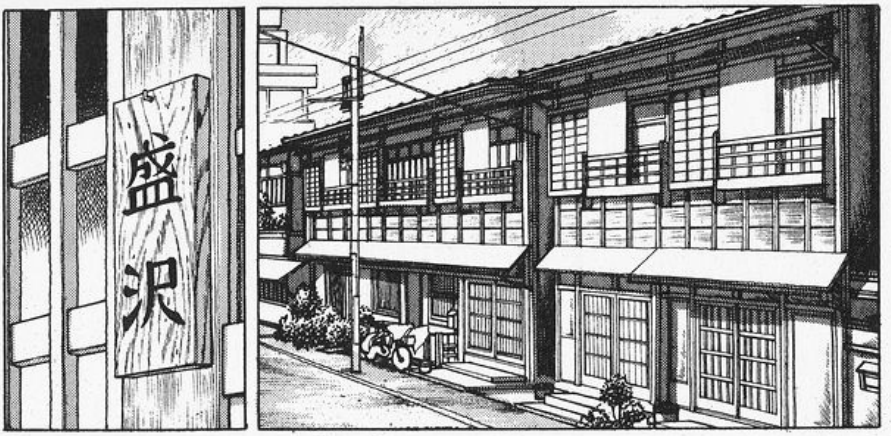
WHY?! HE WAS THE FACE OF THIS PLACE!
WAIT, WHAT?! MORIZAWA-SAN LEFT THE SHOP?!


THE 'NIA' GROUP BOUGHT IT OUT.
HMM... ACTUALLY, THE OWNERSHIP OF THIS PLACE RECENTLY CHANGED HANDS, YOU KNOW.
IT'S A RISING CORPORATE GROUP THAT'S GOT ITS FINGERS IN EVERYTHING FROM HOTELS TO RESTAURANTS!

OH, NO, THAT'S NOT REALLY MY PLACE TO...

MAYBE THINGS JUST DIDN'T CLICK WITH MORIZAWA-SAN, HUH...

THEY'RE PRETTY NOTORIOUS FOR BEING... INTENSE, LET'S SAY.
THAT GUY, NIKI, THE PRESIDENT —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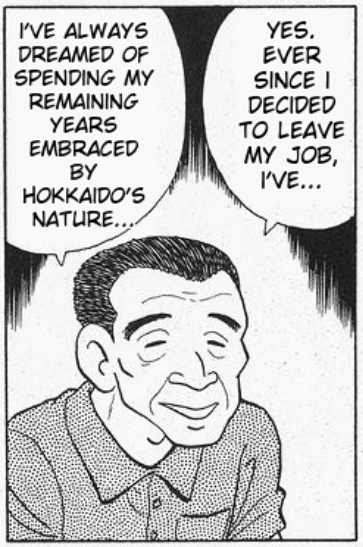
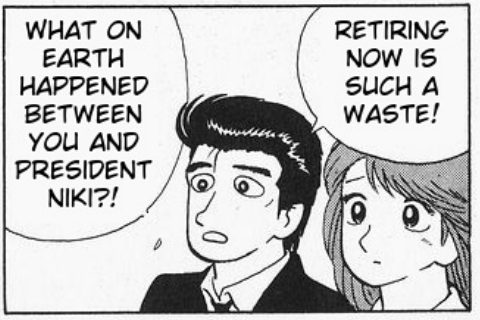

I'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF SPENDING MY REMAINING YEARS EMBRACED BY HOKKAIDO'S NATURE...
YES. EVER SINCE I DECIDED TO LEAVE MY JOB, I'VE...

I HEARD YOU'RE MOVING TO HOKKAIDO?!

8

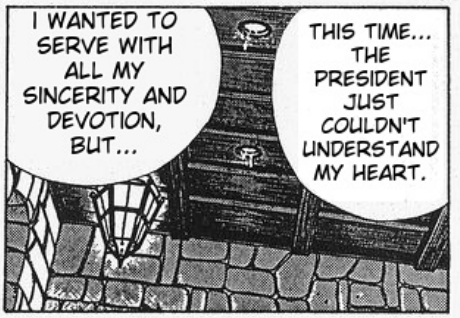

WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED BETWEEN YOU AND PRESIDENT NIKI?!
RETIRING NOW IS SUCH A WASTE!

FOR NEARLY 50 YEARS, I'VE WORKED WITH ONE SIMPLE GOAL: TO BRING JOY TO OUR CUSTOMERS.
THANKFULLY, MANY OF THEM UNDERSTOOD MY HEART AND CHERISHED ME FOR IT.

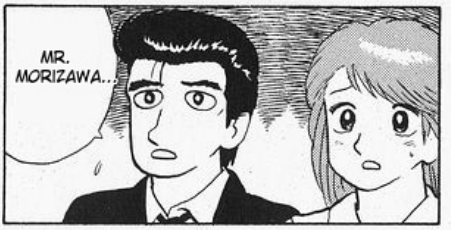
MY HEART DIDN'T REACH THEM... THAT'S ALL IT WAS...

YOUR HEART DIDN'T REACH THEM?

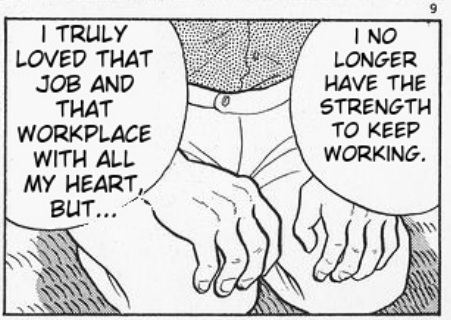
THEN, IN AN INSTANT, THE TENSION THAT HAD BEEN HOLDING ME TOGETHER JUST... SNAPPED.

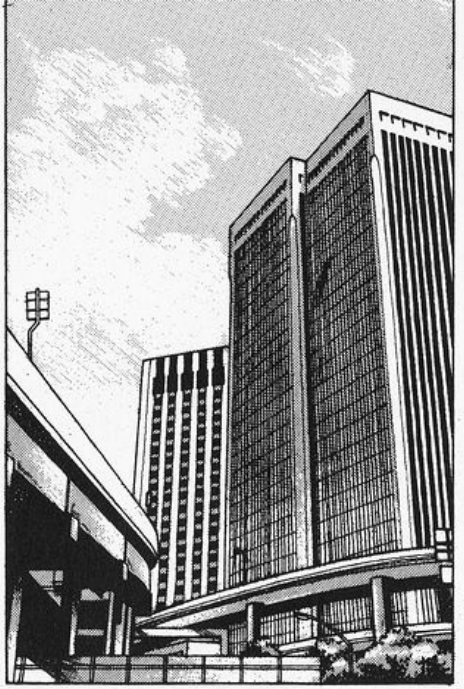

I WANTED TO SERVE WITH ALL MY SINCERITY AND DEVOTION, BUT...
THIS TIME... THE PRESIDENT JUST COULDN'T UNDERSTAND MY HEART.

.....

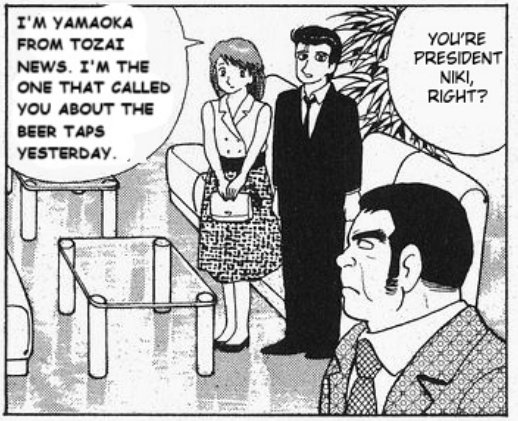

MR. MORIZAWA...

9

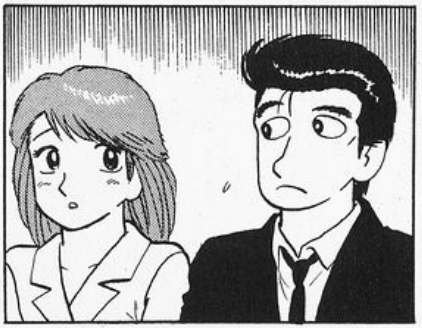

I TRULY LOVED THAT JOB AND THAT WORKPLACE WITH ALL MY HEART, BUT...
I NO LONGER HAVE THE STRENGTH TO KEEP WORKING.



I'M A VERY BUSY MAN!
TCH, WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT STOPPING THE BEER TAPS AT THE BEER HALL, HUH?!

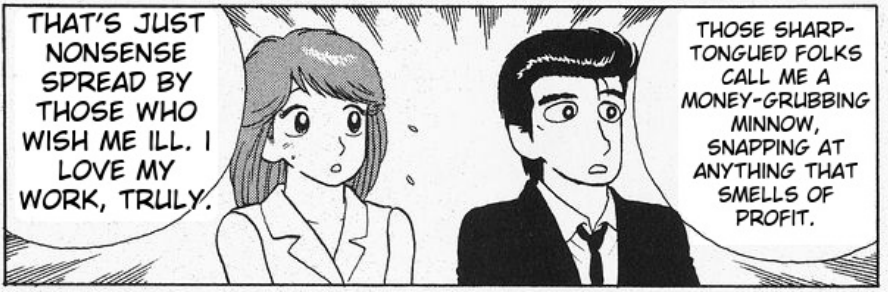

I'M YAMAOKA FROM TOZAI NEWS. I'M THE ONE THAT CALLED YOU ABOUT THE BEER TAPS YESTERDAY.
YOU'RE PRESIDENT NIKI, RIGHT?

10



THREE MINUTES!
JUST FIVE MINUTES IS ALL I NEED, PLEASE...

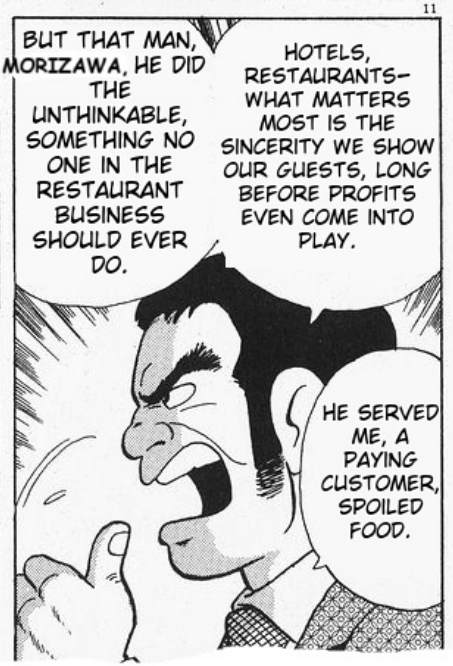
HE DARED TO FEED ME ROTTEN BEANS!!
MISCOMMUNICATION, YOU SAY?! DON'T SPOUT SUCH PRETTY NONSENSE!


THAT'S JUST NONSENSE SPREAD BY THOSE WHO WISH ME ILL. I LOVE MY WORK, TRULY.
THOSE SHARP-TONGUED FOLKS CALL ME A MONEY-GRUBBING MINNOW, SNAPPING AT ANYTHING THAT SMELLS OF PROFIT.

11

COULD YOU TELL ME WHAT EXACTLY HAPPENED?

LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING.
I'LL GO OVER THE PROMISED THREE MINUTES, BUT IT CAN'T BE HELPED.


BUT THAT MAN, MORIZAWA, HE DID THE UNTHINKABLE, SOMETHING NO ONE IN THE RESTAURANT BUSINESS SHOULD EVER DO.
HOTELS, RESTAURANTS— WHAT MATTERS MOST IS THE SINCERITY WE SHOW OUR GUESTS, LONG BEFORE PROFITS EVEN COME INTO PLAY.
HE SERVED ME, A PAYING CUSTOMER, SPOILED FOOD.

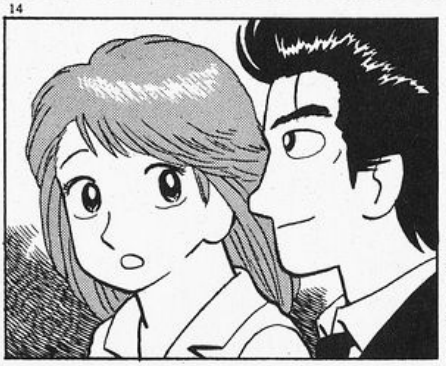
THEN MORIZAWA ASKED, 'WHAT SNACK WOULD YOU LIKE?'
AFTER THE ACQUISITION, I ASKED MORIZAWA TO TREAT ME TO A FINE BEER.
THE REASON I ACQUIRED THAT BEER HALL IN THE FIRST PLACE WAS ALL BECAUSE OF MORIZAWA, A MASTER AT POURING BEER...
WHEN I TOLD MORIZAWA THIS, HE REPLIED, 'UNDERSTOOD, I'LL PREPARE THE FINEST EDAMAME...'
TRUTH BE TOLD, I ADORE LEGUMES, AND I BELIEVE EDAMAME IS THE ULTIMATE BEER SNACK.
12
INSTEAD OF GREEN BEANS, OUT CAME BLACKENED, DISCOLORED BEANS!
AND THEN, TO MY ASTONISHMENT;
NOW, ON THE PROMISED DAY,
I PICKED UP AN EDAMAME POD AND PRESSED THE SHELL.

DID EVERY SINGLE EDAMAME POD HAVE BLACK BEANS INSIDE?
GOOD HEAVENS! WERE THE BEANS BLACK?!
MORIZAWA MUST HAVE BEEN SEETHING THAT I BECAME THE NEW OWNER.
IT WAS PURE SABOTAGE, I TELL YOU.
AND, DID YOU EVEN TRY A SINGLE ONE OF THOSE EDAMAME, NIKI-SAN?
THAT SCOUNDREL SERVED ME A MOUNTAIN OF ROTTEN BEANS!
EVERY. SINGLE. POD!
WHY ON EARTH WOULD HE DO SUCH A THING...?!

I GATHERED THEM ALL UP AND SMASHED THEM RIGHT INTO MORIZAWA'S FACE!
WHO IN THEIR RIGHT MIND WOULD EAT THAT?!

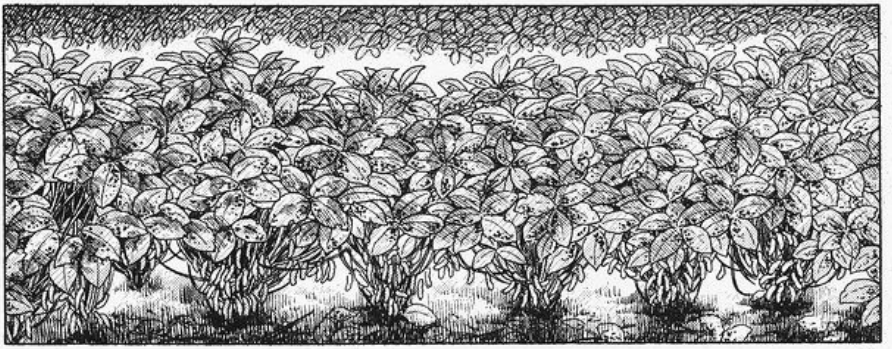
I SEE NOW.
I SEE... INTRIGUING...
DO WE REALLY HAVE TO GO ALL THE WAY TO TANBA?
IT'S IN TANBA, HYOGO PREFECTURE. SHALL WE GO?
THERE'S SOME INCREDIBLY DELICIOUS EDAMAME, YOU KNOW.
BY THE WAY, PRESIDENT NIKI, IF YOU LOVE EDAMAME THAT MUCH...
IT'S A TASTE WORTH SPENDING A WHOLE DAY FOR.
BOILING THEM FRESH ON THE SPOT— THAT'S THE ULTIMATE FLAVOR.
WELL, WELL...

14



AH, NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL LUXURY!
FRESHLY PICKED AND COOKED RIGHT THERE!

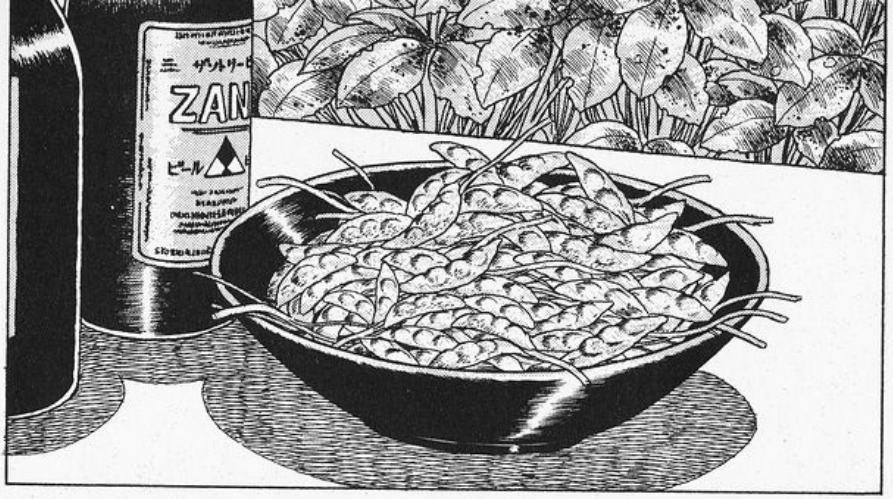
HYOGO PREFECTURE, TAMBA



15

LET'S DIG IN, SHALL WE?

WORKED UP A GOOD SWEAT, I DID.
HA HA HA HA! IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I WORKED IN THE FIELDS.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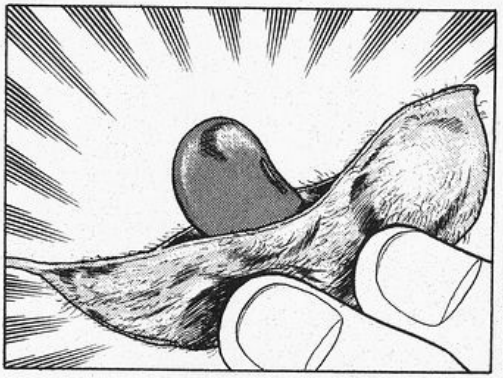
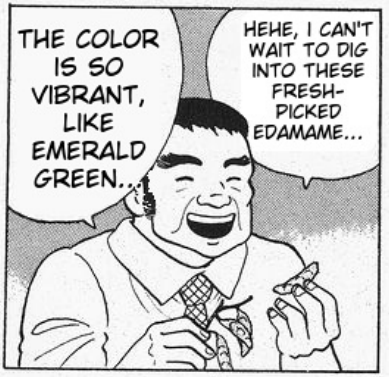
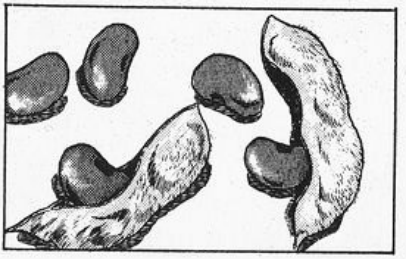



THE COLOR IS SO VIBRANT, LIKE EMERALD GREEN...
HEHE, I CAN'T WAIT TO DIG INTO THESE FRESH-PICKED EDAMAME...

16

HOW CAN THEY BE SPOILED ALREADY? I JUST PICKED THEM!
WHA- THEY'RE ALL ROTTEN!

ギョッ
BLACK! THEY'RE ALL ROTTEN.

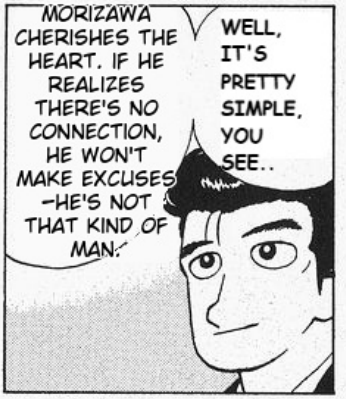


DELICIOUS!
THIS ISN'T SPOILED OR ANYTHING, I ASSURE YOU.
MR. NIKI, WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT A TRY?
モグ
モグ
モグ
YOU'RE NOT PULLING MY LEG, ARE YOU...?
R-REALLY...?
ムシャ...
17
THIS IS THE ULTIMATE EDAMAME—NOTHING COULD POSSIBLY TOP THIS.
REGULAR EDAMAME ARE JUST SOYBEANS, BUT THESE ARE THE FAMOUS TANBA BLACK SOYBEAN EDAMAME.
THE SWEETNESS SPREADS ALL OVER, AND THERE'S SUCH DEPTH TO IT!
WHOA! WHAT AN AMAZING AROMA!
WHAT AN INCREDIBLY RICH AND PROFOUND FLAVOR!

WHY DIDN'T MORIZAWA SAY SOMETHING BACK THEN...?
WHAT A MESS THIS IS...

MR. MORIZAWA MUST'VE GONE THROUGH A LOT TO GET THESE BLACK SOYBEAN EDAMAME, HUH?

I'M NOT THE GREEDY MAN EVERYONE MAKES ME OUT TO BE!
I'VE ALWAYS VALUED THE HEART ABOVE ALL ELSE-IT'S WHAT I'VE LIVED BY!


MORIZAWA CHERISHES THE HEART. IF HE REALIZES THERE'S NO CONNECTION, HE WON'T MAKE EXCUSES -HE'S NOT THAT KIND OF MAN.
WELL, IT'S PRETTY SIMPLE, YOU SEE..

18

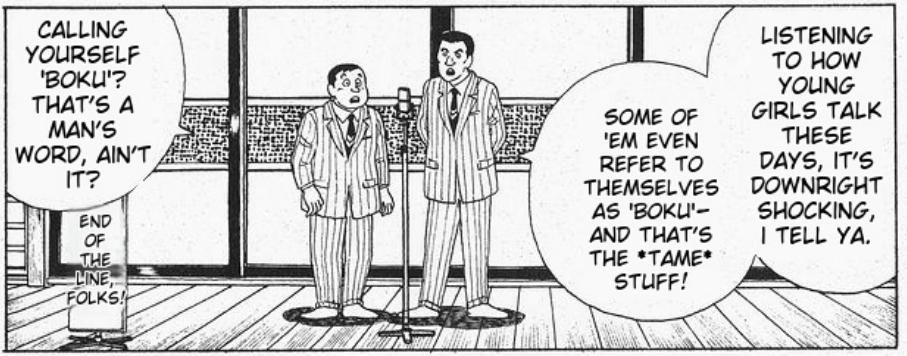
DO YOU THINK MORIZAWA WILL EVER FORGIVE ME...?
HURRY UP AND GET ON! WE'RE TAKING THE CHOPPER STRAIGHT BACK TO TOKYO!

MR. MORIZAWA, EVEN AFTER BEING PROMOTED TO MANAGER, YOU'RE STILL POURING THE BEER YOURSELF?
JUPITER
THE SECRET LIES IN THE FINE TEXTURE OF THIS FOAM.
SEE HOW THE FOAM CLINGS TIGHTLY TO THE BEER WITHOUT BREAKING APART?
HAHAHA, HOW COULD I PASS UP SUCH A DELIGHTFUL JOB?!
19
A PERFECT HEAD OF FOAM IS PROOF THAT THE BEER IS CHILLED JUST RIGHT.
AND EVEN AS YOU KEEP DRINKING, THE FOAM STAYS INTACT, COVERING THE SURFACE TILL THE VERY END.
THESE BUBBLES LOCK IN THE BEER'S AROMA AND KEEP THE GAS FROM ESCAPING ANY FURTHER.

HERE COMES THE EDAMAME.
AH, I SEE NOW. MORIZAWA-SAN, YOU'RE NOT JUST A GENIUS AT POURING–
YOU'RE A TRUE MASTER AT BRINGING OUT THE BEST IN BEER, HUH?
SO THIS IS THE INFAMOUS EDAMAME I'VE HEARD ABOUT!
?
WAIT, WHAT'S THIS?!
20
IS THIS PLACE SERIOUSLY SERVING ROTTEN EDAMAME?!
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?!
IT'S ROTTEN, I TELL YOU!
WHOA, IT'S BLACK!
PFFT.

第3話
ぼけとつっこみ

WENT TO HEAR BLACK-SAN'S RAKUGO, AND WHO SHOWS UP BUT THE HOTTEST COMEDY DUO OF THE MOMENT, YAMAZAKA SUBERTA AND KORONTA!


CALLING YOURSELF 'BOKU'? THAT'S A MAN'S WORD, AIN'T IT?
END OF THE LINE, FOLKS!
SOME OF 'EM EVEN REFER TO THEMSELVES AS 'BOKU'— AND THAT'S THE *TAME* STUFF!
LISTENING TO HOW YOUNG GIRLS TALK THESE DAYS, IT'S DOWNRIGHT SHOCKING, I TELL YA.

2

THAT'S JUST RIDICULOUS.
ORE, WAI, OIDON, WASHI, SESSHA— PICK YOUR POISON!
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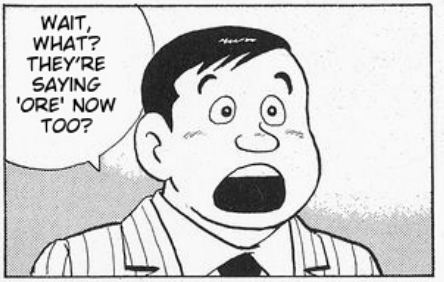
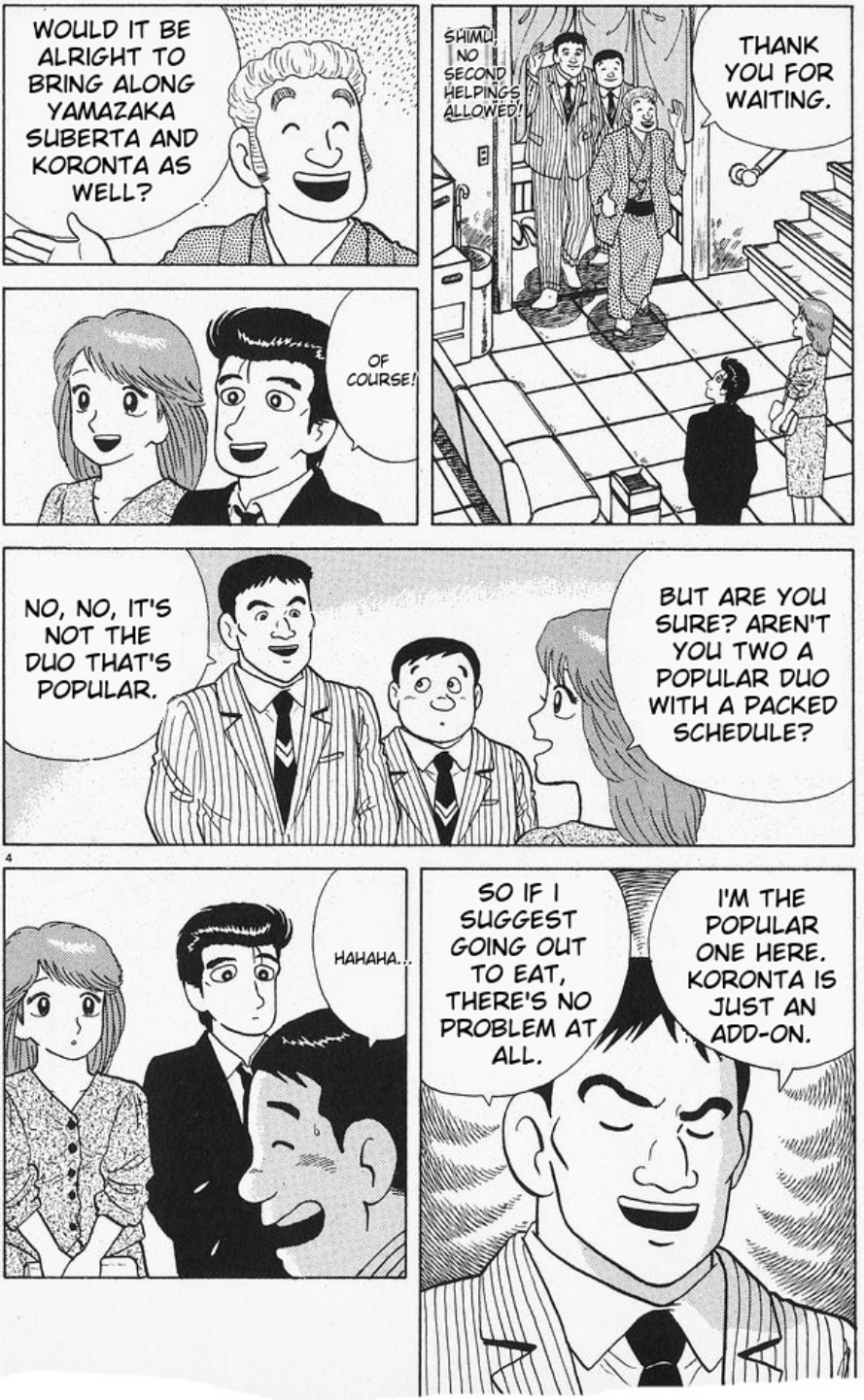
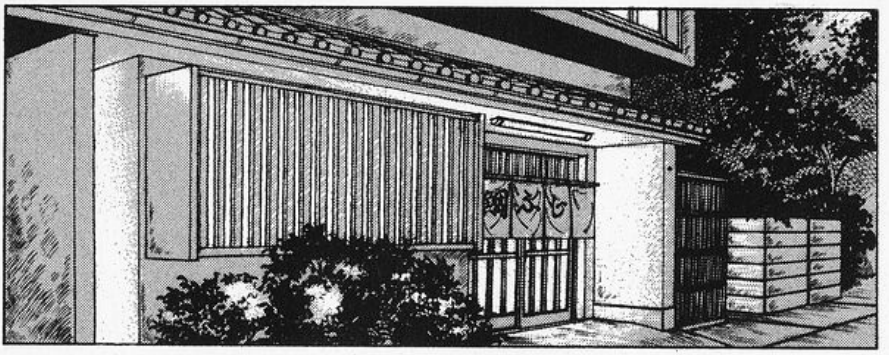
ABOVE 'BOKU' IS 'ORE,' YA KNOW.
IF *THAT* SHOCKS YA, WHAT'RE YA GONNA DO WHEN THINGS GET *REALLY* WILD?


WAIT, WHAT? THEY'RE SAYING 'ORE' NOW TOO?

*TL NOTE: "MANZAI" IS BASICALLY JAPAN'S STYLE OF DOUBLE ACT COMEDY INVOLVING A STRAIGHT MAN AND A WISE GUY. ABBOTT AND COSTELLO ARE THE MOST FAMOUS SIMILAR AMERICAN COMEDY TEAM I CAN THINK OF (THAT WASN'T REALLY LAUREL AND HARDY'S STYLE), BUT THIS WAS A VERY COMMON STYLE OF COMEDY IN THE DAYS OF VAUDEVILLE, THOUGH IT'S LARGELY FALLEN OUT OF STYLE HERE IN THE WEST.


WOULD IT BE ALRIGHT TO BRING ALONG YAMAZAKA SUBERTA AND KORONTA AS WELL?
SHIMU, NO SECOND HELPINGS ALLOWED!
THANK YOU FOR WAITING.
OF COURSE!
NO, NO, IT'S NOT THE DUO THAT'S POPULAR.
BUT ARE YOU SURE? AREN'T YOU TWO A POPULAR DUO WITH A PACKED SCHEDULE?
4
HAHAHA...
SO IF I SUGGEST GOING OUT TO EAT, THERE'S NO PROBLEM AT ALL.
I'M THE POPULAR ONE HERE. KORONTA IS JUST AN ADD-ON.



THE AUDIENCE COMES TO SEE *ME*, AFTER ALL.
I'M THE ONE WHO GETS THE LAUGHS,

IN THE END, A TALENTED GUY LIKE ME IS WASTING HIS TIME DOING MANZAI COMEDY. IT'S A TOTAL LOSS.

HA, HAA...

5

WELL, MAYBE IF YOU LET KORONTA-SAN TALK A BIT MORE...
BUT MANZAI HAS A SCRIPT, RIGHT?!

THEN HONESTLY, MY PARTNER COULD BE *ANYONE*. IT DOESN'T EVEN MATTER WHO IT IS.
EVEN MY PARTNER JUST NODS AND THROWS IN A FEW 'UH-HUHS' HERE AND THERE.

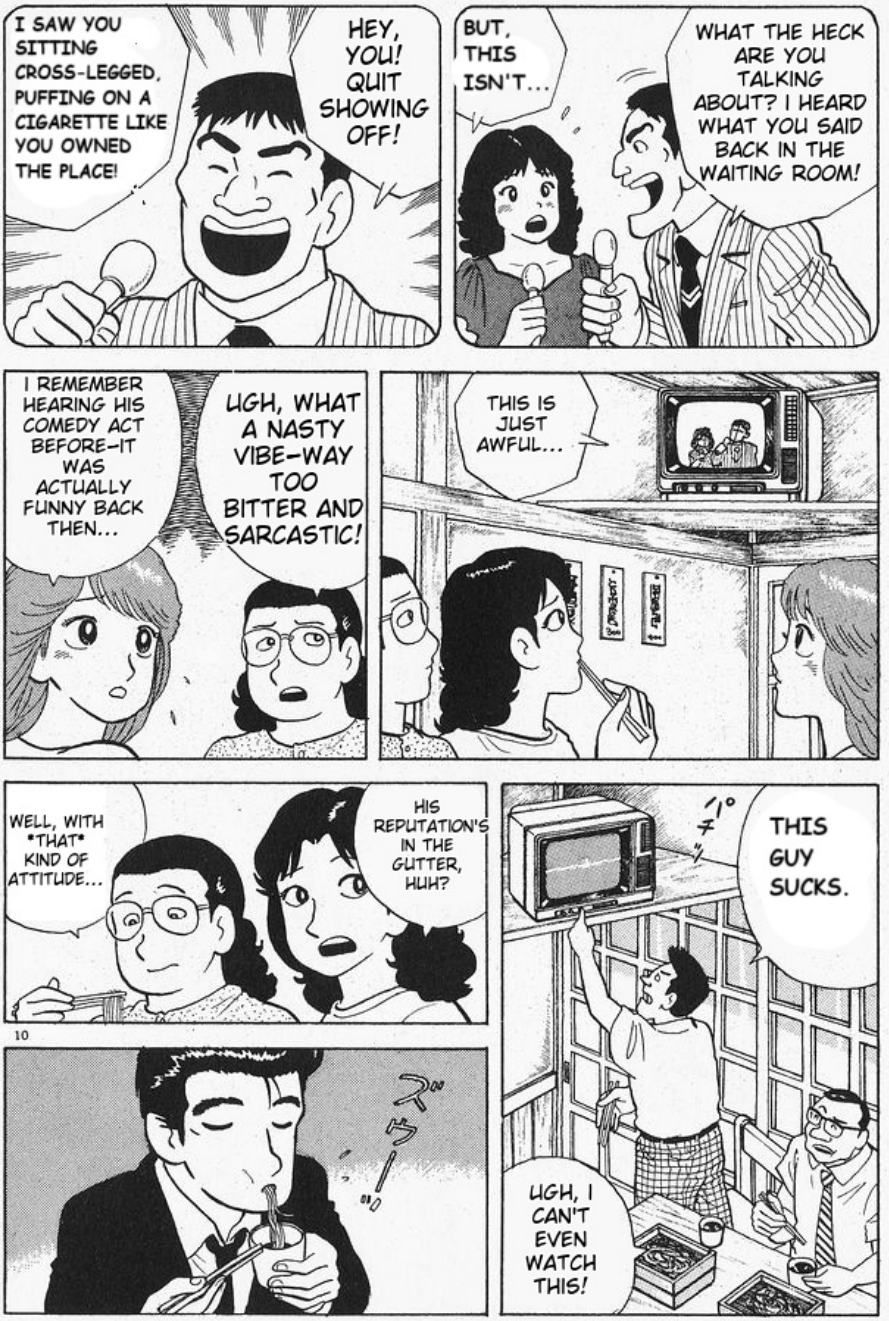
EVERY TIME, THEY END UP CUTTING YOUR PARTS, DON'T THEY?
SURE, THE SCRIPTWRITER WRITES MY LINES, BUT...
AND THE SCRIPT? IT ALWAYS ENDS UP BEING ALL ABOUT MY KILLER LINES. ANYWAY,
UGH, IT'S UNBEARABLE! EVERY TIME THIS GUY TALKS, IT'S SO SLUGGISH IT THROWS OFF THE WHOLE RHYTHM!
MANZAI JUST DOESN'T LOOK RIGHT WITH ONLY ONE PERSON, SO I DRAGGED YOU OVER TO STAND NEXT TO ME, GOT IT?!
BUT HEY, KORONTA, YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG, MAN!
HONESTLY, I COULD'VE JUST STUCK A TELEPHONE POLE OR A DOG NEXT TO ME— IT'D WORK JUST AS WELL!
EVEN BEFORE WE START, I CAN TELL IT'S GONNA BE A SNOOZE-FEST. YOU'RE JUST DEAD WEIGHT!
OF COURSE NOT, DUMMY!
BUT STILL...
6
THAT'S GOING TOO FAR!

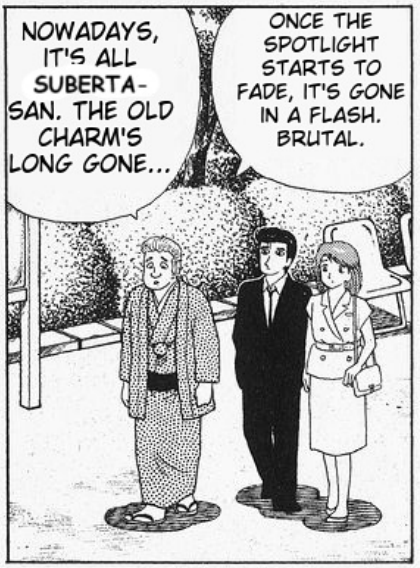
WOW, THAT'S AMAZING! DYNAMITE!!
HERE YOU GO, GRILLED SEA BREAM HEAD!
HUH? WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
KORONTA! HEY, THAT'S NOT YOUR FOOD TO EAT!
LET'S DIG IN!!
WHOA, THAT'S TRULY IMPRESSIVE.
7
THAT'S JUST AWFUL!
EATING SOMETHING AS GRAND AS THE HEAD OF A SEA BREAM WILL BRING YOU BAD LUCK. YOU SHOULD'VE JUST STUCK TO THE TAIL.
YOU'RE NOT USING YOUR HEAD AT ALL!
HEY, THIS IS MY PLACE! I SERVED IT TO HIM! YOU'RE GOING TOO FAR!

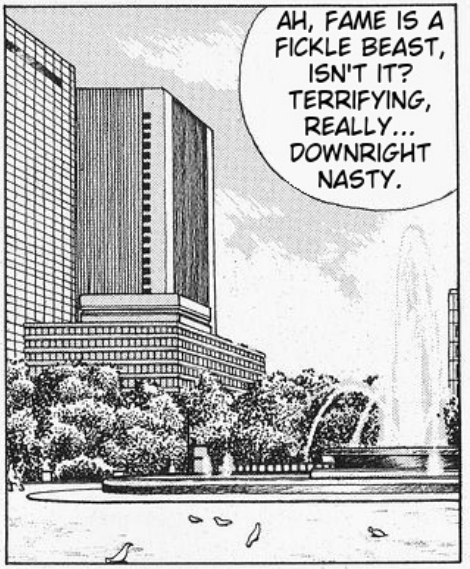
UGH, ENOUGH ALREADY, SHUT UP!
EATING WITH THIS IDIOT JUST BRINGS ME DOWN! I'M OUTTA HERE!
KORONTA, I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT FOR A WHILE NOW—WE'RE BREAKING UP THE DUO!
I'LL DO IT ALONE. I DON'T NEED YOU DRAGGING ME DOWN.
WELL THEN, GOODBYE!
.....
WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS THIS?! I'VE NEVER SEEN SOMEONE SO SELFISH.
HE'S COMPLETELY FULL OF HIMSELF NOW...
IT'S FINE... SUBERTA-SAN IS TRULY A TALENTED PERSON, SO IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT HE'LL GROW EVEN BIGGER WITHOUT ME BY HIS SIDE.
BUT KORONTA-SAN, THAT'S JUST TOO MUCH...

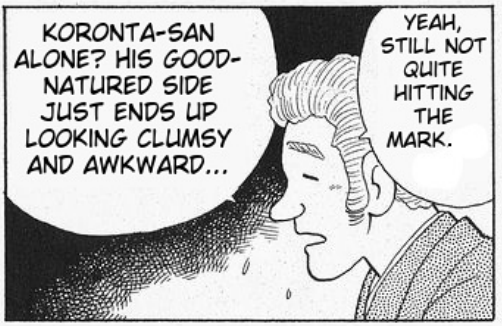
8

THAT'S JUST FINE.
IT'S ALL GOOD,
I HEARD HE QUIT MANZAI AND NOW HE'S POPPING UP SOLO ON ALL SORTS OF SHOWS.
OH LOOK, IT'S SUBERTA-SAN ON TV.
9
I'D NEVER USE SUCH AWFUL LANGUAGE!
SOME GUYS CALL THEMSELVES 'BOKU' OR 'ORE,' AND THE WORST ONES EVEN GO WITH 'WASHI'!
GIRLS THESE DAYS ARE JUST OUTRAGEOUS,


I SAW YOU SITTING CROSS-LEGGED, PUFFING ON A CIGARETTE LIKE YOU OWNED THE PLACE!
HEY, YOU! QUIT SHOWING OFF!
BUT, THIS ISN'T...
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I HEARD WHAT YOU SAID BACK IN THE WAITING ROOM!
I REMEMBER HEARING HIS COMEDY ACT BEFORE-IT WAS ACTUALLY FUNNY BACK THEN...
UGH, WHAT A NASTY VIBE-WAY TOO BITTER AND SARCASTIC!
THIS IS JUST AWFUL...
WELL, WITH *THAT* KIND OF ATTITUDE...
HIS REPUTATION'S IN THE GUTTER, HUH?
THIS GUY SUCKS.
UGH, I CAN'T EVEN WATCH THIS!

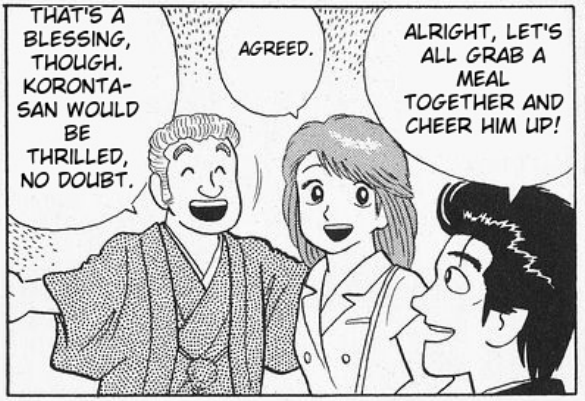

NOWADAYS, IT'S ALL SUBERTA-SAN. THE OLD CHARM'S LONG GONE...
ONCE THE SPOTLIGHT STARTS TO FADE, IT'S GONE IN A FLASH. BRUTAL.

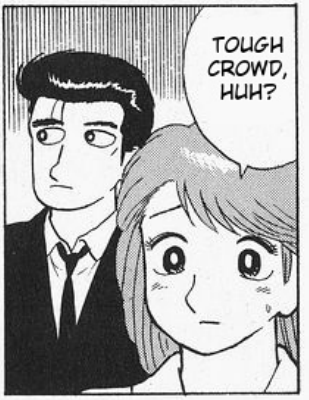

AH, FAME IS A FICKLE BEAST, ISN'T IT? TERRIFYING, REALLY... DOWNRIGHT NASTY.


KORONTA-SAN ALONE? HIS GOOD-NATURED SIDE JUST ENDS UP LOOKING CLUMSY AND AWKWARD...
YEAH, STILL NOT QUITE HITTING THE MARK.

HOW'S KORONTA-SAN HOLDING UP?

11


THAT'S A BLESSING, THOUGH. KORONTA-SAN WOULD BE THRILLED, NO DOUBT.
AGREED.
ALRIGHT, LET'S ALL GRAB A MEAL TOGETHER AND CHEER HIM UP!


TOUGH CROWD, HUH?

HUH?! ISN'T KORONTA-SAN THE ONE WHO NEEDS CHEERING UP?!
I WANT TO TREAT YOU TWO AND HIM TO A FEAST!
THEN LET'S CONTACT SUBERTA-SAN RIGHT AWAY.
ACTUALLY, IT'S KORONTA-SAN WHO NEEDS THE ENCOURAGEMENT, YOU JERK!
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SUBERTA-SAN IS THE ONE IN THE WRONG HERE!
12
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ナニ
I'M SURE HE HAS A PLAN!
BLACK-SAN, JUST DO AS YAMAOKA-SAN SAYS...
SIGH... I JUST CAN'T ACCEPT THIS, YOU SCOUNDREL!

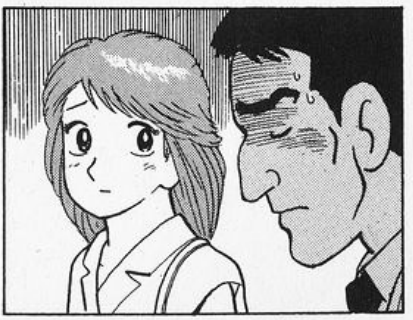
OH MY, DON'T GO ALL SERIOUS ON ME NOW!

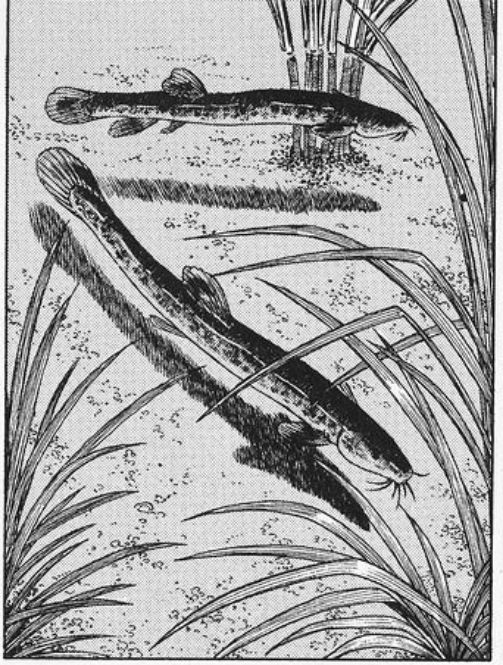
AFTER ALL THE RUDE THINGS I'VE DONE TO EVERYONE BEFORE, AND YET HERE YOU ARE, LIFTING MY SPIRITS LIKE THIS...
SORRY 'BOUT THIS, REALLY...

MY LIFE IS OVER, I TELL YA.

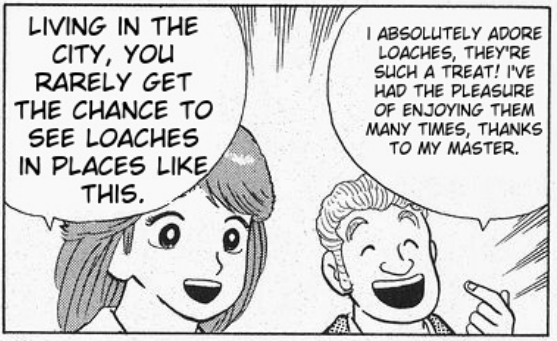
13

YOU DRAGGED ME ALL THE WAY OUT TO THIS BACKWATER— WHAT KIND OF FEAST ARE YOU TREATING ME TO?
BY THE WAY, YAMAOKA-SAN—



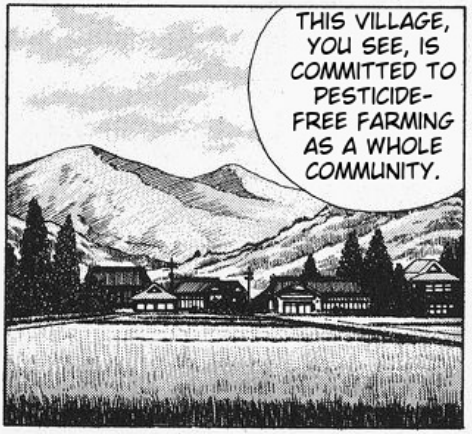


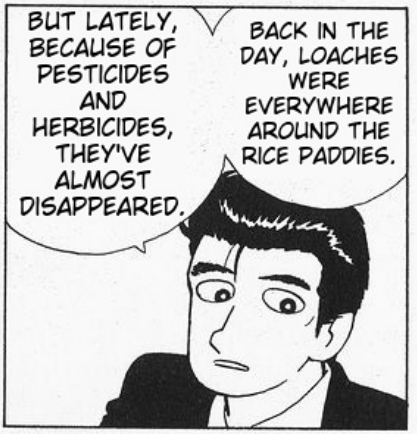
WHAT IS IT?
OVER HERE, OVER HERE!
SOMETHING IN THE RICE FIELDS...

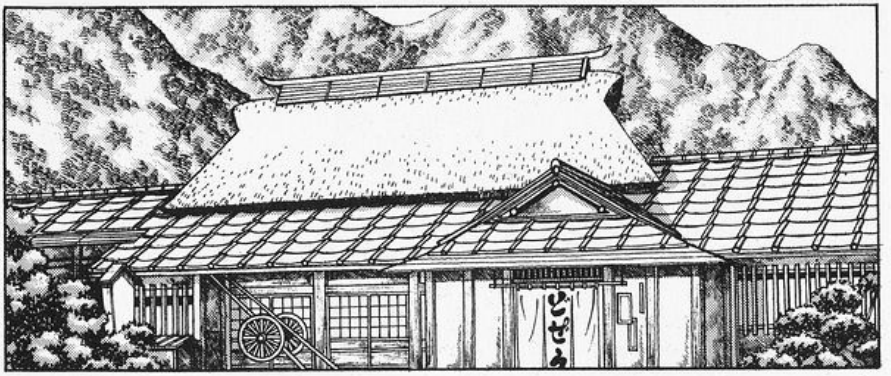

LIVING IN THE CITY, YOU RARELY GET THE CHANCE TO SEE LOACHES IN PLACES LIKE THIS.
I ABSOLUTELY ADORE LOACHES, THEY'RE SUCH A TREAT! I'VE HAD THE PLEASURE OF ENJOYING THEM MANY TIMES, THANKS TO MY MASTER.

LOACHES!

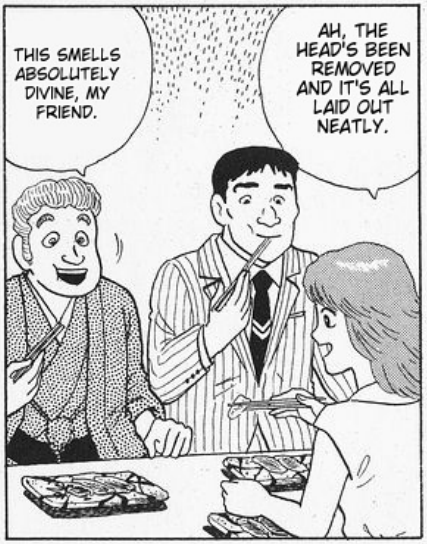
14

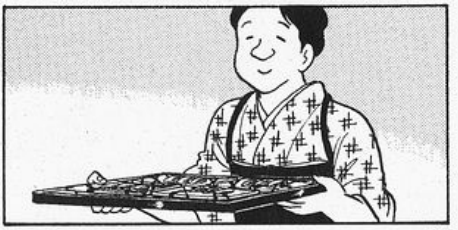

THIS VILLAGE, YOU SEE, IS COMMITTED TO PESTICIDE-FREE FARMING AS A WHOLE COMMUNITY.


BUT LATELY, BECAUSE OF PESTICIDES AND HERBICIDES, THEY'VE ALMOST DISAPPEARED.
BACK IN THE DAY, LOACHES WERE EVERYWHERE AROUND THE RICE PADDIES.



CHEERS! HERE'S TO LIFTING YOUR SPIRITS.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
ALRIGHT THEN, FIRST THINGS FIRST,


THIS SMELLS ABSOLUTELY DIVINE, MY FRIEND.
AH, THE HEAD'S BEEN REMOVED AND IT'S ALL LAID OUT NEATLY.



15

IT'S GRILLED LOACH WITH A TOUCH OF SALT.

IT'S A LOACH HOTPOT, SIR.
AHH... SUCH A REFRESHING FLAVOR...
GOES DOWN WELL WITH SAKE, DOESN'T IT?
AH, THIS IS QUITE SOMETHING...
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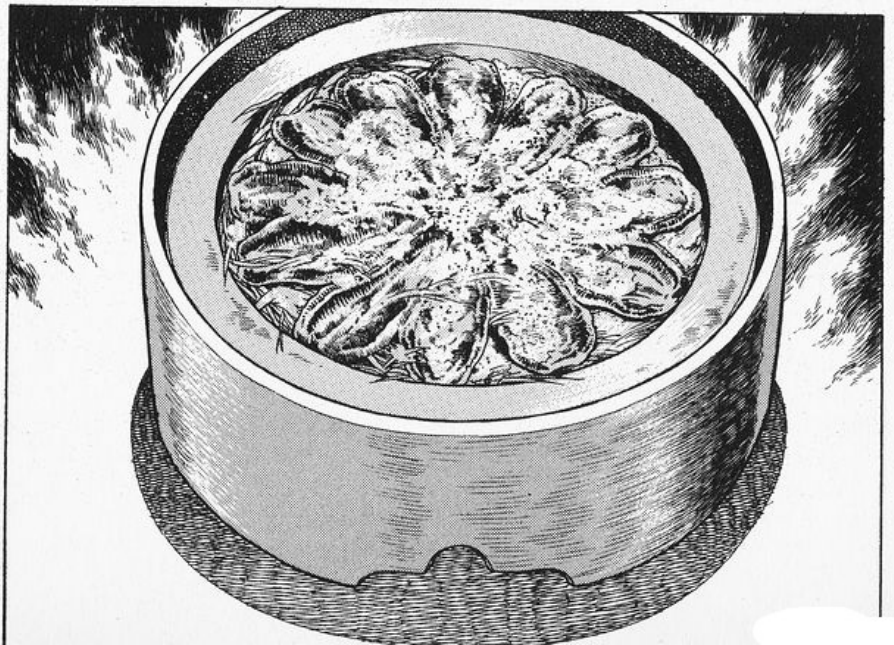
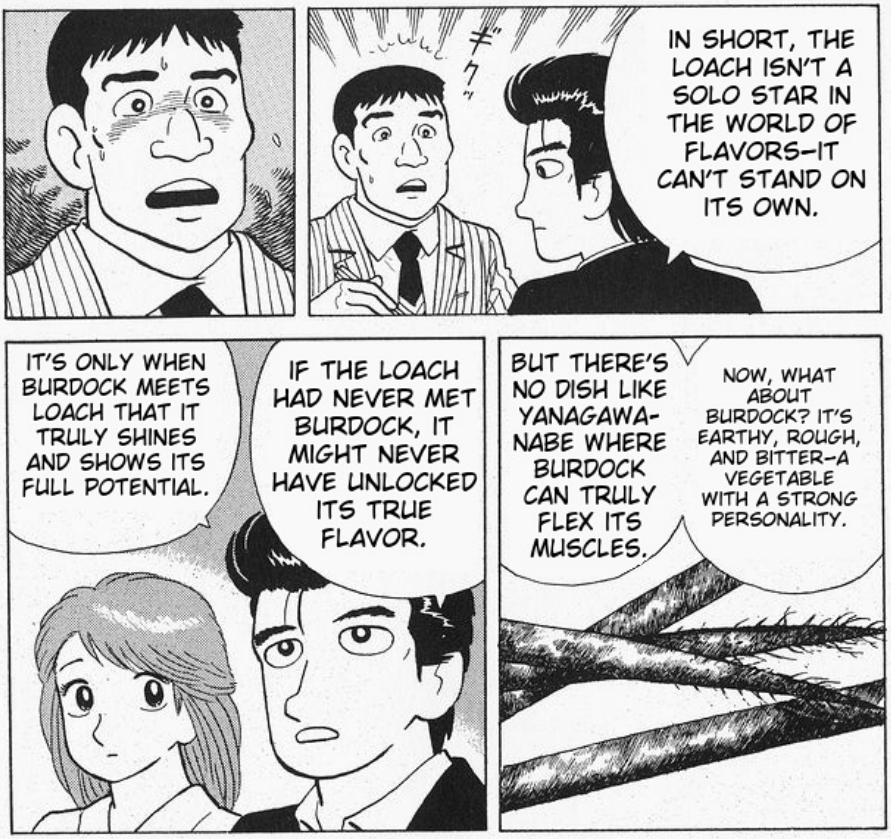
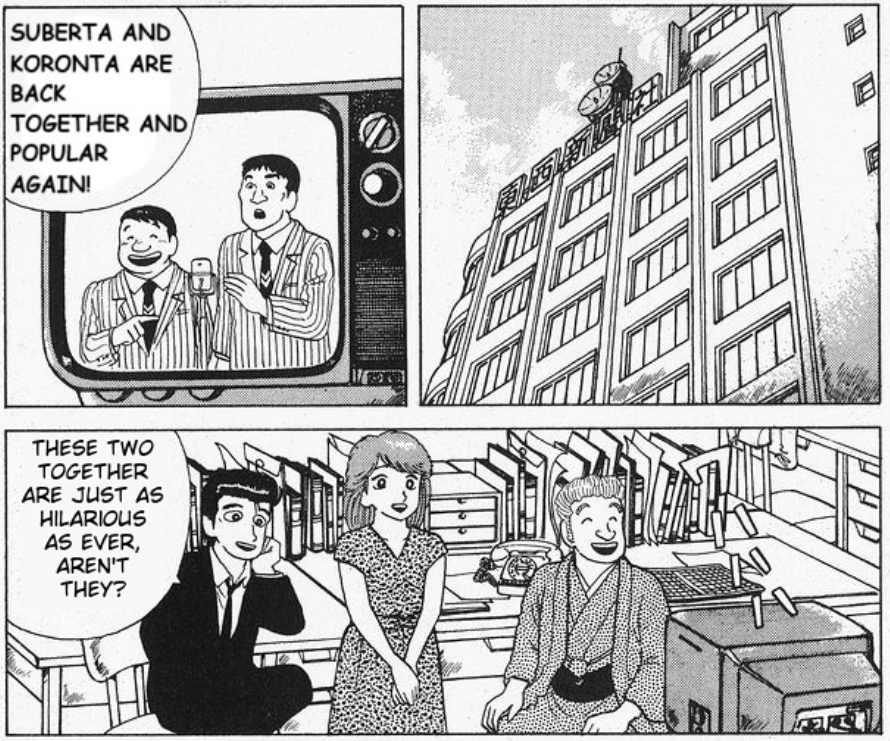


PRESENTING, YANAGAWA-STYLE HOT POT.
WHOA, WHAT A FANTASTIC AROMA! THIS LOOKS ABSOLUTELY MOUTHWATERING!
IT'S THE BURDOCK THAT MAKES IT SO TASTY!
THIS, MY FRIEND, IS ALL ABOUT THE BURDOCK!
THIS IS THE BEST DISH OF THE DAY!
AND THEN, THE LOACH HOT POT. IT'S LIGHT AND SOMEWHAT ENJOYABLE, BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE ANY EXCEPTIONAL FLAVOR.
FIRST, THE SALT-GRILLED LOACH—CRISPY AND FRAGRANT, BUT THAT'S ABOUT IT. NOT PARTICULARLY DELICIOUS, AND IT HAS A BITTER AFTERTASTE.
IN FACT, IT JUST REAFFIRMS THAT LOACH ITSELF IS RATHER RUSTIC AND HAS AN EARTHY TASTE.
BURDOCK AND LOACH REALLY BRING OUT THE BEST IN EACH OTHER!
THAT'S RIGHT, IT'S THE BURDOCK!
17
LET'S TAKE A MOMENT TO REFLECT ON TODAY'S MEAL.


IN SHORT, THE LOACH ISN'T A SOLO STAR IN THE WORLD OF FLAVORS—IT CAN'T STAND ON ITS OWN.
IT'S ONLY WHEN BURDOCK MEETS LOACH THAT IT TRULY SHINES AND SHOWS ITS FULL POTENTIAL.
IF THE LOACH HAD NEVER MET BURDOCK, IT MIGHT NEVER HAVE UNLOCKED ITS TRUE FLAVOR.
BUT THERE'S NO DISH LIKE YANAGAWA-NABE WHERE BURDOCK CAN TRULY FLEX ITS MUSCLES.
NOW, WHAT ABOUT BURDOCK? IT'S EARTHY, ROUGH, AND BITTER—A VEGETABLE WITH A STRONG PERSONALITY.
18
ALONE, NEITHER COULD BECOME A STAR. IT'S ONLY WHEN THEY COME TOGETHER—LIKE ME AND KORONTA—THAT THEY SHINE BRIGHTEST.
THE YAMAZAKA SUBERTA-KORONTA DUO WAS THE YANAGAWA-NABE OF PARTNERSHIPS.
AND I HAD IT ALL WRONG BEFORE.
.....

SUBERTA-SAN, YOU SAID IT PERFECTLY -WHAT A SLY MOVE!
I'LL APOLOGIZE TO KORONTA-KUN FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART AND ASK HIM TO TEAM UP WITH ME AGAIN.
THANK YOU SO MUCH! I'VE FINALLY SEEN THE LIGHT!
I THINK HE MIGHT JUST SAY YES...
HMM...
BUT WILL KORONTA-KUN AGREE TO IT...?
ALRIGHT, THEN! A TOAST TO THE REVIVAL OF YOUR DUO!
19
WELL, LOOKS LIKE WE'RE ALL SET NOW!
ENOUGH WITH THE LAME JOKES ALREADY!


SUBERTA AND KORONTA ARE BACK TOGETHER AND POPULAR AGAIN!
THESE TWO TOGETHER ARE JUST AS HILARIOUS AS EVER, AREN'T THEY?
20
WHOA, THIEF! YOU STOLE MY PUN, YOU SCOUNDREL!
HEY, JUST BECAUSE IT'S YANAGAWA HOTPOT DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN PUSH ME AROUND!
IS THAT SO?
A COMEDY DUO IS LIKE A YANAGAWA HOTPOT!
WAIT, I'M THE BURDOCK ROOT?!
I'M THE LOACH, AND YOU'RE THE BURDOCK ROOT.

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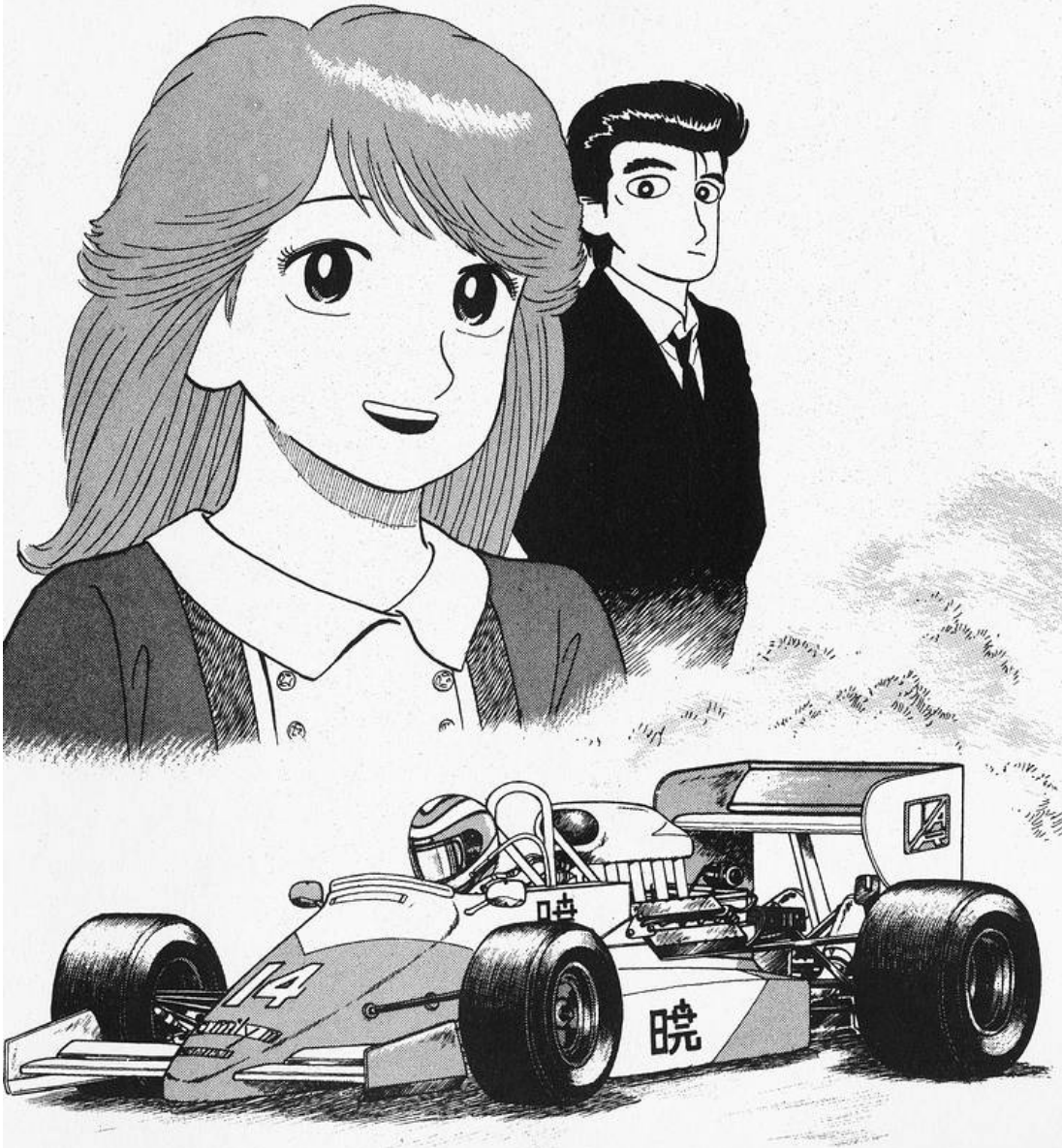
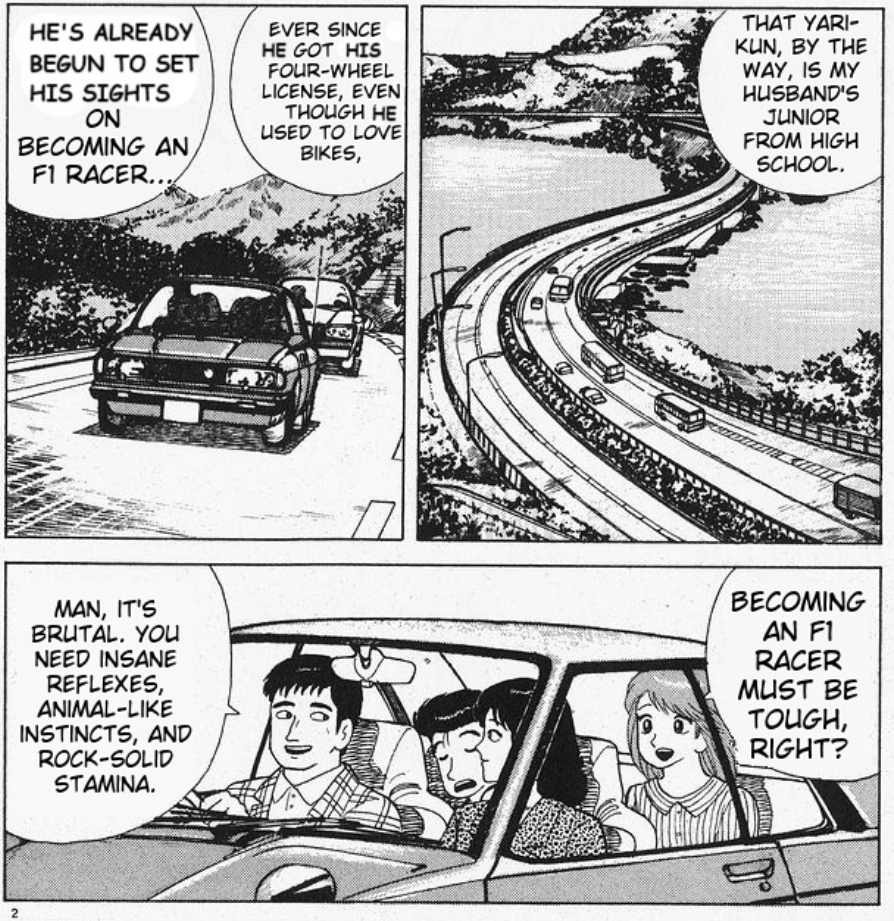
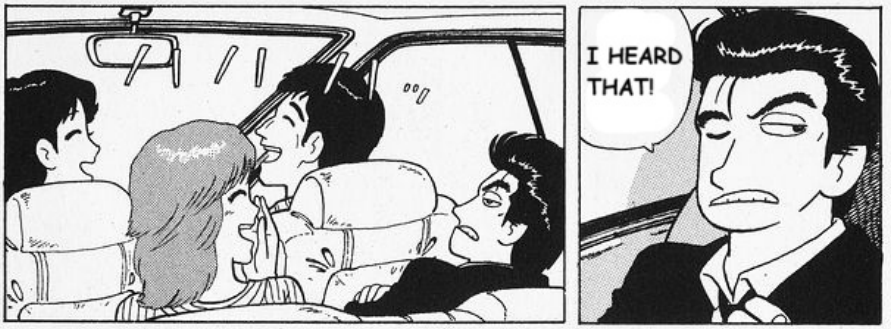
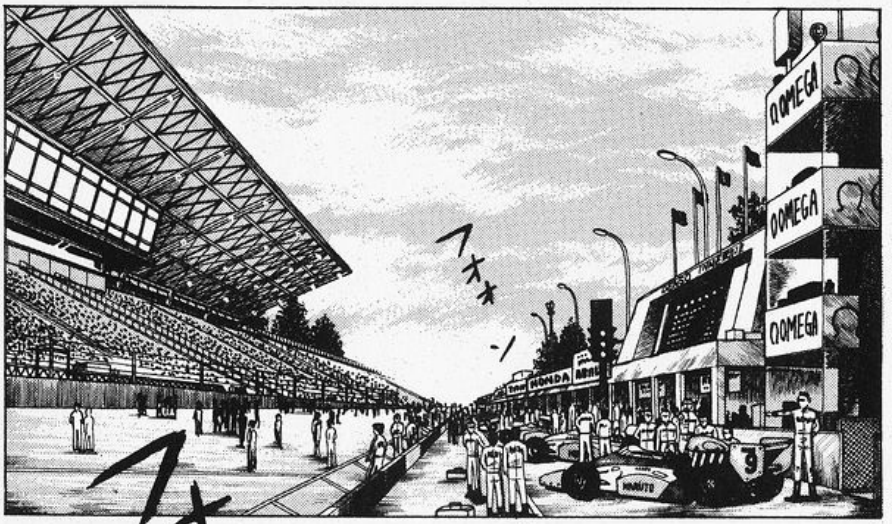
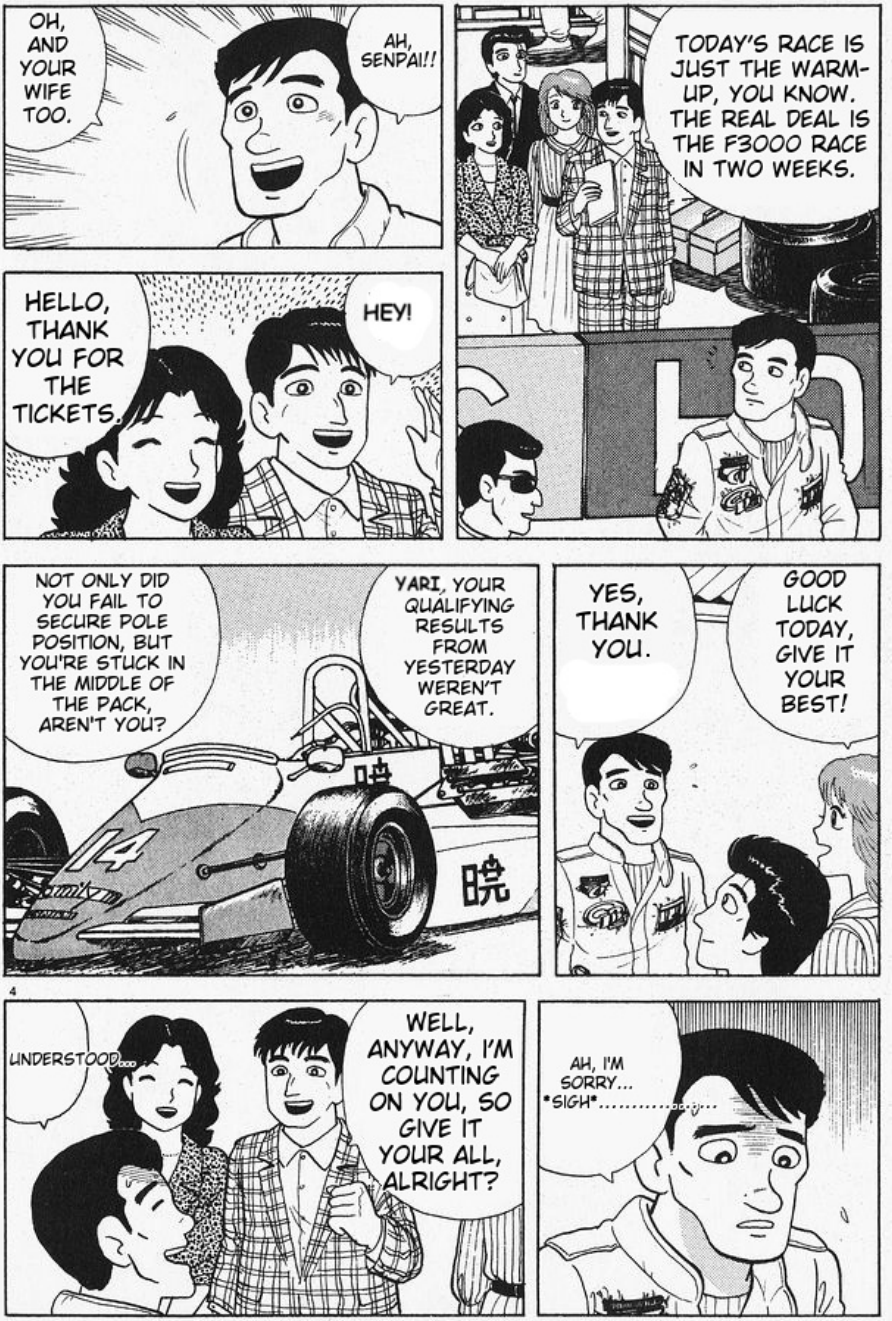


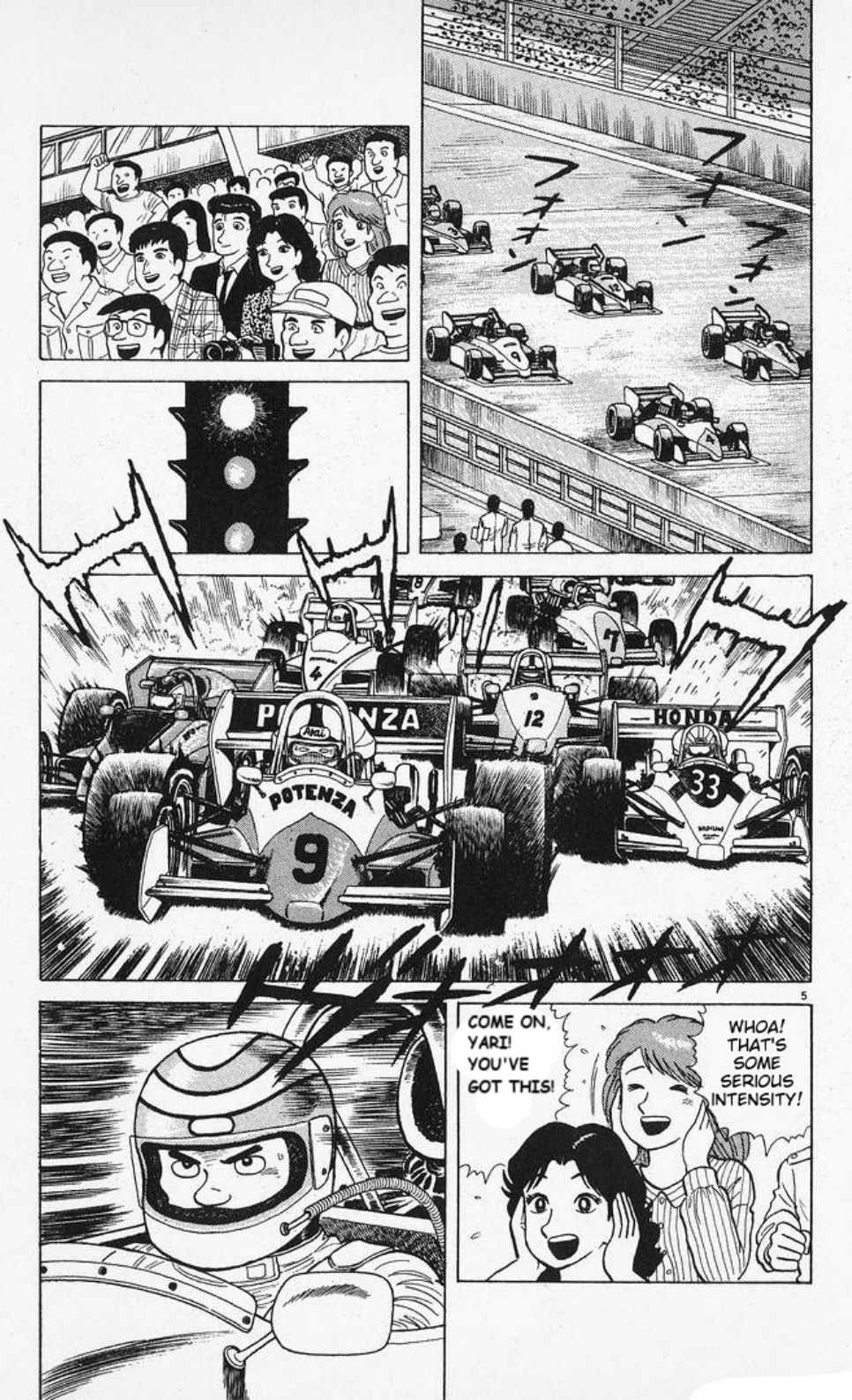

HE'S ALREADY BEGUN TO SET HIS SIGHTS ON BECOMING AN F1 RACER...
EVER SINCE HE GOT HIS FOUR-WHEEL LICENSE, EVEN THOUGH HE USED TO LOVE BIKES,
THAT YARI-KUN, BY THE WAY, IS MY HUSBAND'S JUNIOR FROM HIGH SCHOOL.
MAN, IT'S BRUTAL. YOU NEED INSANE REFLEXES, ANIMAL-LIKE INSTINCTS, AND ROCK-SOLID STAMINA.
BECOMING AN F1 RACER MUST BE TOUGH, RIGHT?
2
NO WAY HE'D EVER BECOME AN F1 RACER.
WELL, THAT'S A HANDFUL!

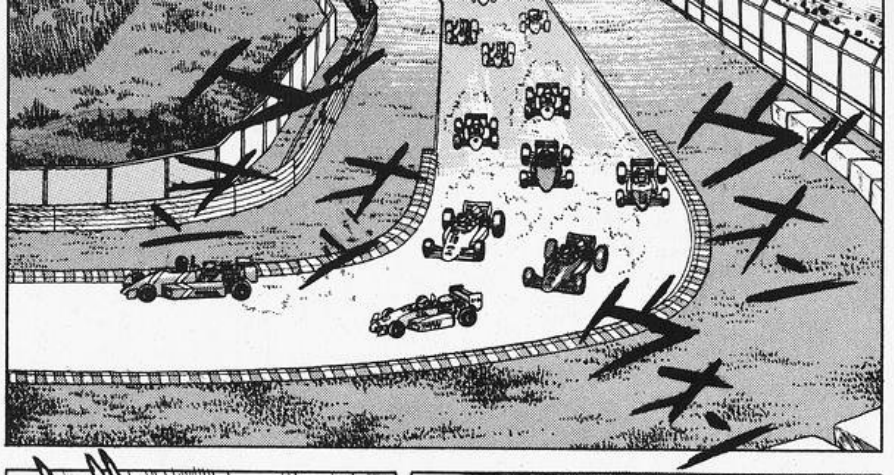
OISHINBO,
VOLUME 14!

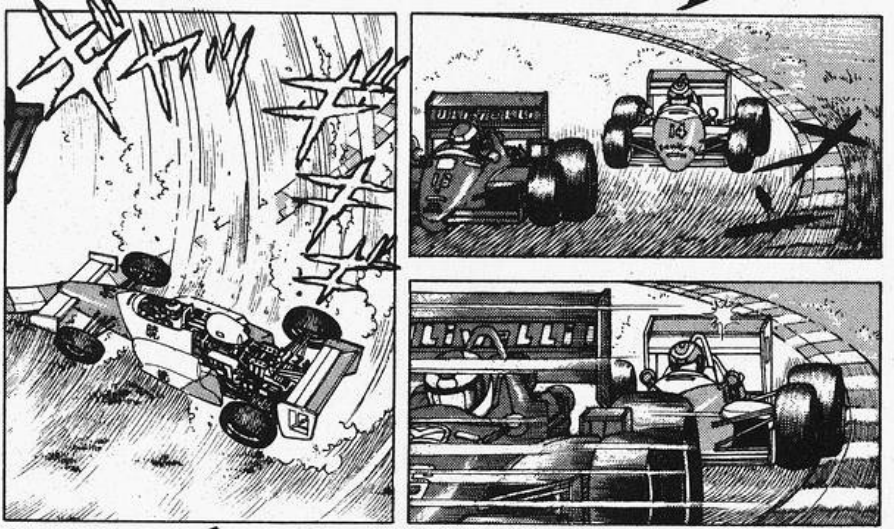


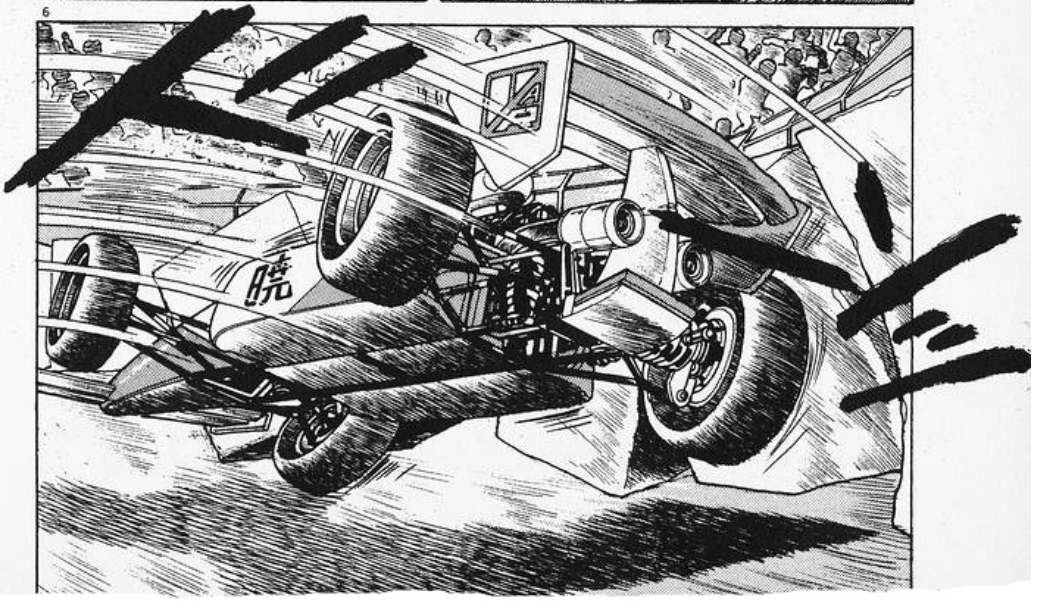



OH, AND YOUR WIFE TOO.
AH, SENPAI!!
TODAY'S RACE IS JUST THE WARM-UP, YOU KNOW. THE REAL DEAL IS THE F3000 RACE IN TWO WEEKS.
HELLO, THANK YOU FOR THE TICKETS.
HEY!
NOT ONLY DID YOU FAIL TO SECURE POLE POSITION, BUT YOU'RE STUCK IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PACK, AREN'T YOU?
YARI, YOUR QUALIFYING RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY WEREN'T GREAT.
YES, THANK YOU.
GOOD LUCK TODAY, GIVE IT YOUR BEST!
4
UNDERSTOOD...
WELL, ANYWAY, I'M COUNTING ON YOU, SO GIVE IT YOUR ALL, ALRIGHT?
AH, I'M SORRY... *SIGH*.....


POTENZA
HONDA
COME ON, YARI! YOU'VE GOT THIS!
WHOA! THAT'S SOME SERIOUS INTENSITY!



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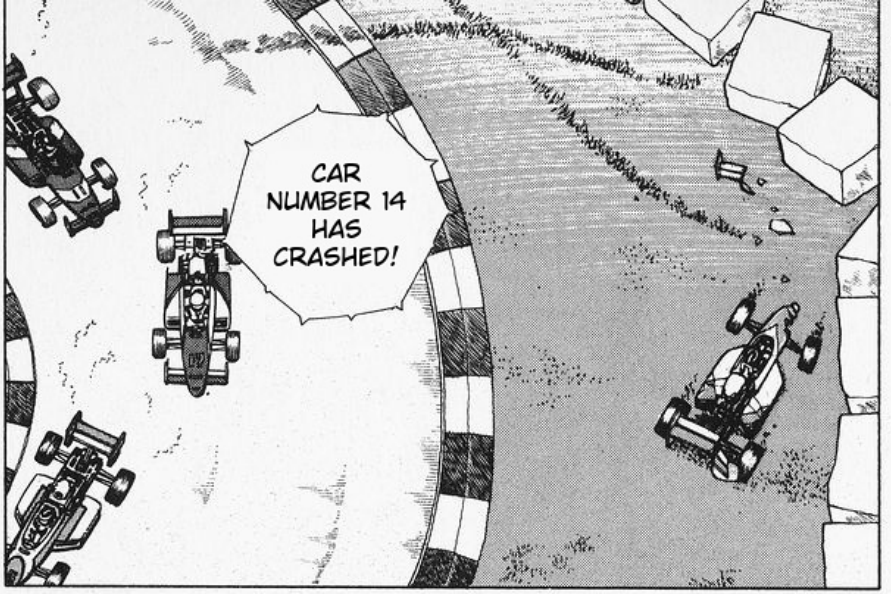

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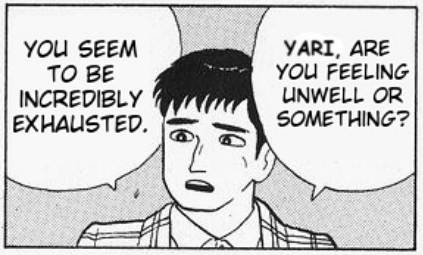
YOU SEEM TO BE INCREDIBLY EXHAUSTED.
YARI, ARE YOU FEELING UNWELL OR SOMETHING?

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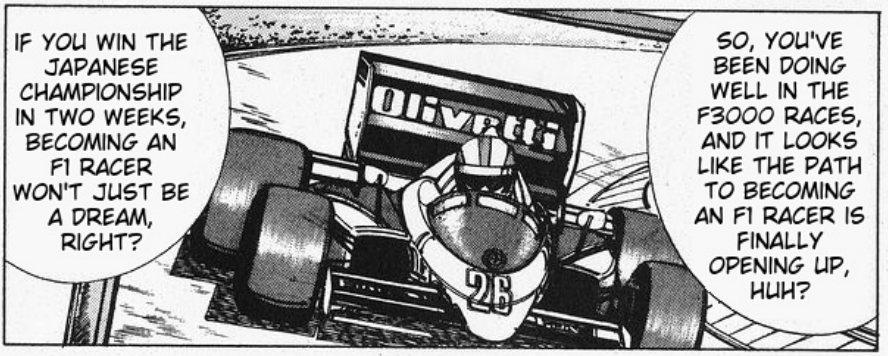
I'M SORRY FOR WORRYING YOU ALL.....
BUT STILL... IT'S A RELIEF YOU'RE NOT INJURED.


IF YOU WIN THE JAPANESE CHAMPIONSHIP IN TWO WEEKS, BECOMING AN F1 RACER WON'T JUST BE A DREAM, RIGHT?
SO, YOU'VE BEEN DOING WELL IN THE F3000 RACES, AND IT LOOKS LIKE THE PATH TO BECOMING AN F1 RACER IS FINALLY OPENING UP, HUH?
Olivetti
26

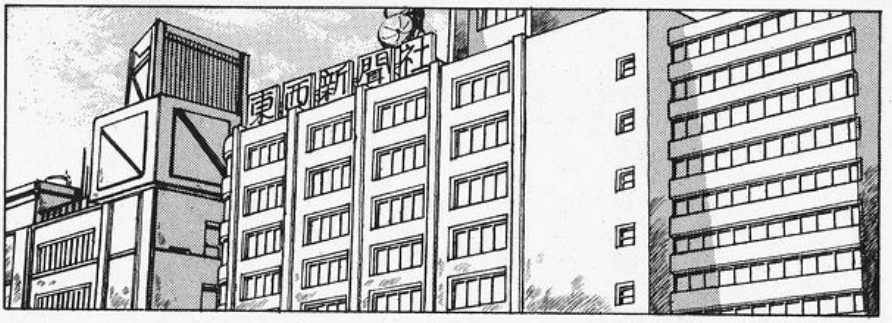
I'LL SWALLOW MY PRIDE AND TELL YOU THE TRUTH.
I'M SORRY.....

WHAT'S WRONG, YARI-SAN?
HOWEVER, THESE LAST THREE RACES HAVE BEEN STRANGE, HAVEN'T THEY?

8

SO, THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG AFTER ALL?!

INSOMNIA, YOU SAY?
I CAN'T SLEEP... I'VE GOT INSOMNIA.
NO, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.
I LIE AWAKE THINKING ABOUT THE PERFECT RACING LINE THROUGH THE CORNERS, AND I DON'T GET A WINK OF SLEEP.
AS THE RACE GETS CLOSER, I CAN'T STOP WORRYING ABOUT EVERY LITTLE DETAIL OF THE CAR... IT JUST KEEPS POPPING INTO MY HEAD AND WON'T LEAVE ME ALONE...
A ASPEC A ASPEC A ASPEC
SO WHEN RACE TIME FINALLY COMES, I'M COMPLETELY OUT OF IT...
I CAN'T SLEEP BECAUSE ALL I CAN THINK ABOUT IS HOW I ABSOLUTELY CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE...
JUST WHEN I STARTED TO SEE THE PATH TO BECOMING AN F1 RACER, SUDDENLY I'M OVERWHELMED WITH ANXIETY...
TEAM 86
9
.....
MAN, THIS IS TOUGH...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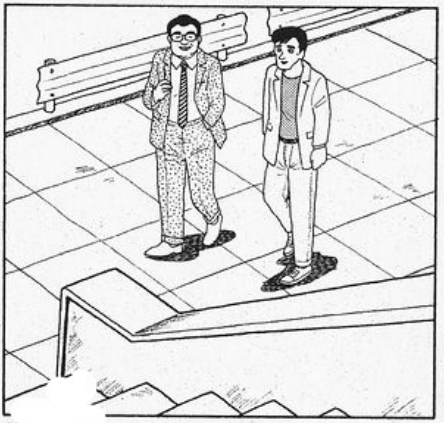

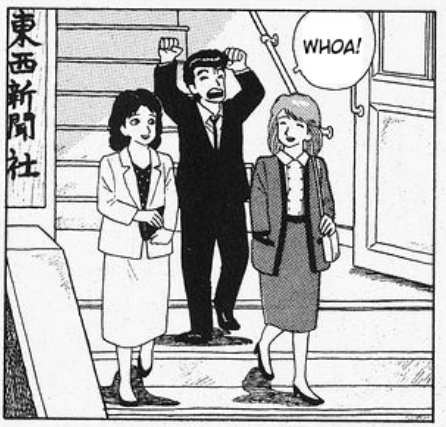
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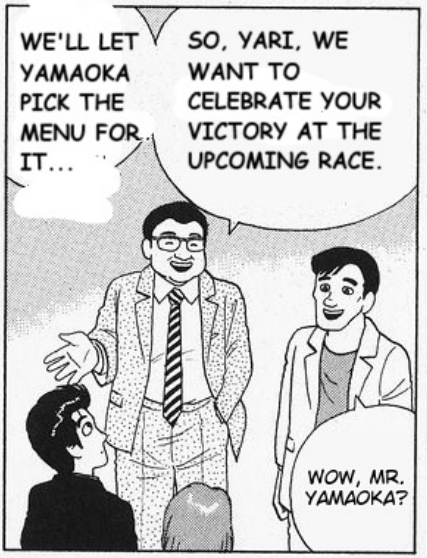
WHOA!

10


WE'LL LET YAMAOKA PICK THE MENU FOR IT...
SO, YARI, WE WANT TO CELEBRATE YOUR VICTORY AT THE UPCOMING RACE.
WOW, MR. YAMAOKA?

AH, HE'S WITH THE SPORTS CLUB PRESIDENT.
WELL, IT'S MR. YARI.

OH, SO YOU KNOW YARI-SAN?
AH... THANK YOU FOR THE OTHER DAY.

CHIEF, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
HE'S TRULY A PITIFUL AND SHAMEFUL CHARACTER!
HE'S A LAZY GOOD-FOR-NOTHING, BUT HE KNOWS HIS FOOD.
!?
HOW ABOUT SOME BONELESS FISH?
AH, THAT'S RIGHT.
WILL THERE BE ANY UNIQUE DISHES SERVED?
AN UNUSUAL DISH, HUH...
I'LL BE THERE TO CHEER YOU ON!
GOOD LUCK WITH THE RACE!
AH, THANK YOU...
WELL, THAT'S SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO ON THE DAY.
WHAT'S THAT? NEVER HEARD OF IT...
11
COME ON, YARI-SAN.
HA HA HA, ALRIGHT, YAMAOKA, I'M COUNTING ON YOU.
Y-YES!

ALRIGHT, WHAT SHOULD I MUNCH ON NOW...
WAIT... HOLD ON A SEC!
SO, THAT'S GONNA BE THE SURPRISE OF THE DAY...
HUH?
MR. YAMAOKA, WHAT ON EARTH IS A BONELESS FISH? PLEASE, ENLIGHTEN ME!
12
GOTTA TACKLE THE ROOT OF HIS SLEEPLESS NIGHTS, EVEN IF IT'S JUST A BIT!
OH DEAR, MR. YAMAOKA, DO TELL HIM!
IF I DON'T FIGURE OUT WHAT A BONELESS FISH IS, IT'S GONNA BUG ME ALL NIGHT!
THAT'S A PROBLEM, A REAL PROBLEM! DIDN'T I TELL YOU I'VE GOT INSOMNIA?!

*TL NOTE: REALLY, IF YOUR ANXIETY HAS GOTTEN THIS BAD, YOU MIGHT WANT TO SEE A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL...

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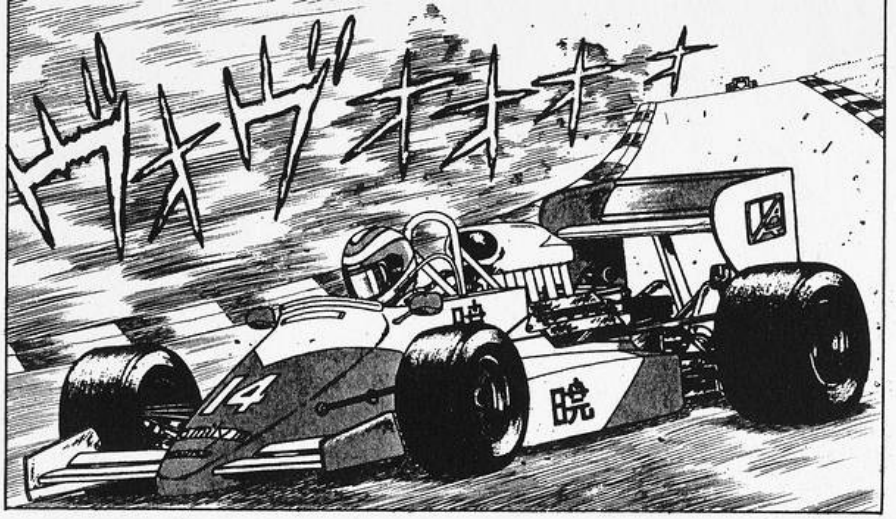
東和新聞社
HE SNAGGED POLE POSITION, YOU KNOW!
YARI-SAN MADE IT THROUGH TODAY'S QUALIFIERS,
YAMAOKA-SAN!
THAT'S WHY HE'S BEGGING YOU TO COME TO TOMORROW'S FINALS!
AND GET THIS –IT'S ALL THANKS TO THOSE BONELESS FISH, APPARENTLY!
NOT ONLY THAT. BUT YARI--SAN'S BEEN SUPERCHARGED WITH ENERGY!
WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...?
BONELESS FISH? WHAT'S THAT ABOUT?

14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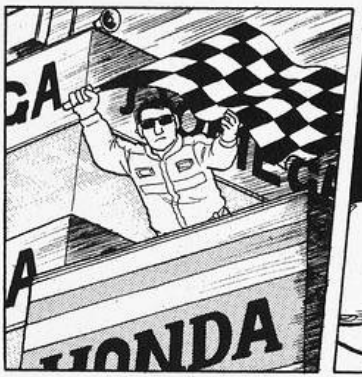
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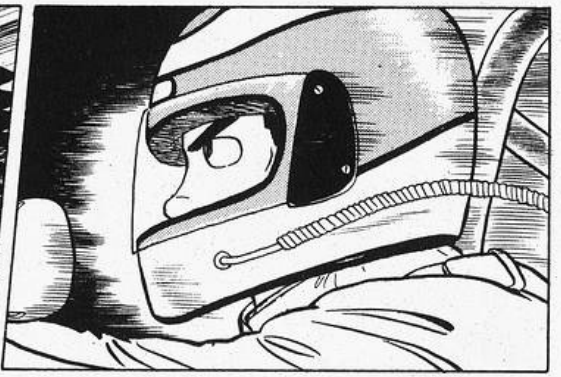

OMEGA
RICARD
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14

日本選手権戦
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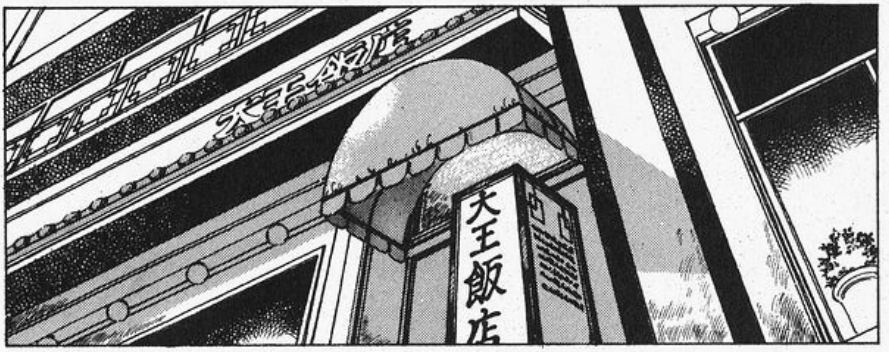
大王飯店

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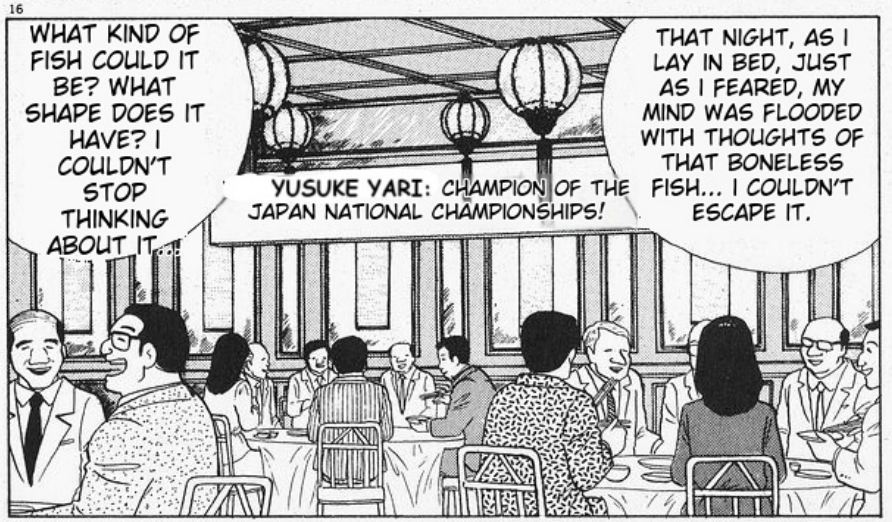
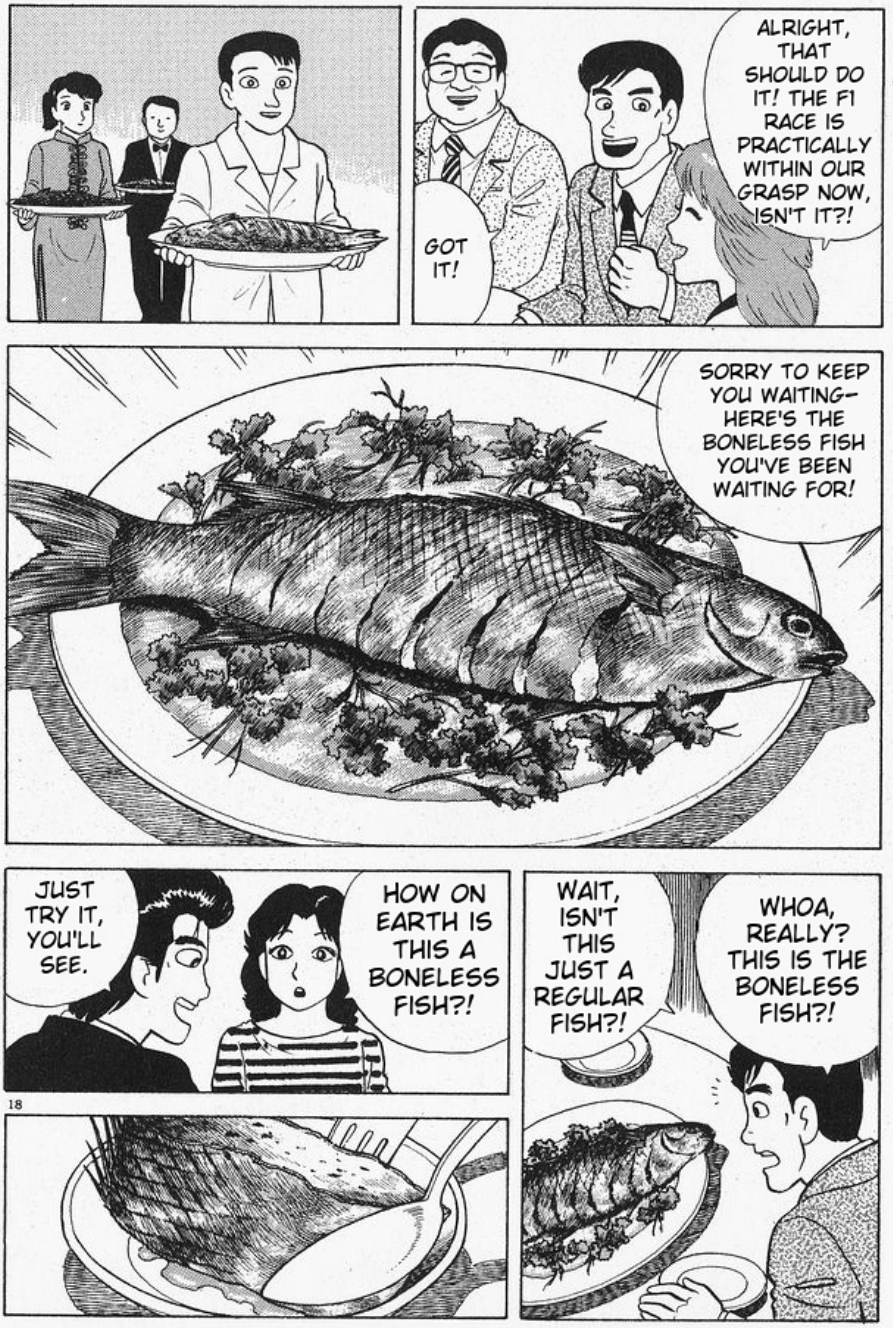

WHAT KIND OF FISH COULD IT BE? WHAT SHAPE DOES IT HAVE? I COULDN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT IT...
YUSUKE YARI: CHAMPION OF THE JAPAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS!
THAT NIGHT, AS I LAY IN BED, JUST AS I FEARED, MY MIND WAS FLOODED WITH THOUGHTS OF THAT BONELESS FISH... I COULDN'T ESCAPE IT.

NEXT THING I KNEW, IT WAS MORNING—AND I ONLY REALIZED BECAUSE MY SISTER WOKE ME UP.
BUT THEN...
BEFORE, I COULDN'T SLEEP BECAUSE I WAS SO CONSUMED WITH THOUGHTS ABOUT THE RACE, AND I WAS OVERWHELMED WITH WORRY.
THAT'S WHY I'M GRATEFUL FOR IT.
WAIT, YOU WERE ACTUALLY ASLEEP?!
WAIT, WHAT?! YOU WERE JUST OBSESSING OVER BONELESS FISH, WEREN'T YOU?!
17
IT ACTUALLY HELPED EASE MY ANXIETY AND TENSION, AND CURED MY MONTHS-LONG INSOMNIA.
THAT'S RIGHT, THINKING ABOUT BONELESS FISH DID IT.
BUT THEN, I GOT SO CAUGHT UP IN THINKING ABOUT BONELESS FISH THAT I COMPLETELY FORGOT ABOUT MY ANXIETY...


ALRIGHT, THAT SHOULD DO IT! THE F1 RACE IS PRACTICALLY WITHIN OUR GRASP NOW, ISN'T IT?!
GOT IT!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING— HERE'S THE BONELESS FISH YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!
JUST TRY IT, YOU'LL SEE.
HOW ON EARTH IS THIS A BONELESS FISH?!
WAIT, ISN'T THIS JUST A REGULAR FISH?!
WHOA, REALLY? THIS IS THE BONELESS FISH?!
18

THE INSIDE IS MINCED FISH.
モグ
IT REALLY HAS NO BONES!
OH MY!
THE NAME 'SHARK FISH' REFERS TO A FISH SIMILAR TO THIS MULLET.
THE DISH IS CALLED 'FRIED STUFFED SHARK FISH.'
WE STUFF THE FISH AND THEN LIGHTLY FRY IT.
THEN THOROUGHLY KNEAD THE FLESH, ADD SEASONING, AND STUFF IT BACK INTO THE SKIN.
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU OPEN THE FISH FROM THE BELLY, REMOVE ALL THE BACKBONE AND FLESH,
APPARENTLY, FOUR FISH WORTH OF FLESH FILLS THE SKIN OF ONE FISH.
19
I WAS IMAGINING ALL SORTS OF MONSTER-LIKE FISH.
GOOD GRIEF, SO THIS IS WHAT THEY MEAN BY BONELESS FISH...
ANOTHER NAME FOR IT IS 'BONELESS FISH.'

HIS INSOMNIA MIGHT KICK IN AGAIN, AND THAT WOULD BE A REAL PROBLEM.
BUT... IF YUU FINDS OUT THAT THIS BONELESS FISH IS ACTUALLY WHAT HE THINKS IT IS,
ABSOLUTELY DIVINE! THE SKIN IS CRISPY AND AROMATIC, WHILE THE MEAT IS TENDER AND JUICY!
HOW DOES IT TASTE?
IF THAT HAPPENS, WE'LL HAVE TO ASK YAMAOKA-SAN TO WHIP UP ANOTHER ONE OF HIS ECCENTRIC DISHES!

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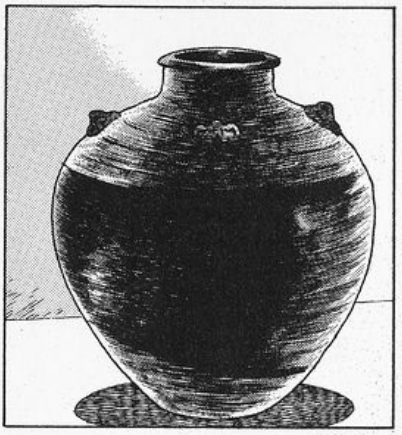
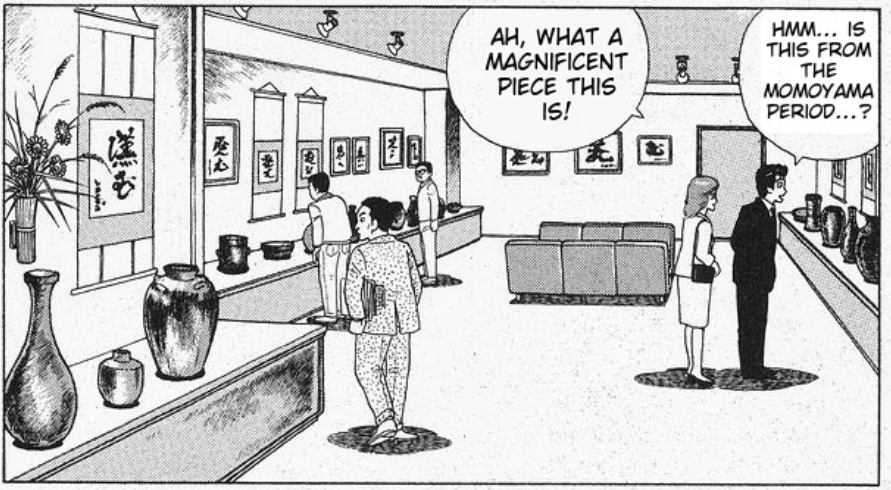
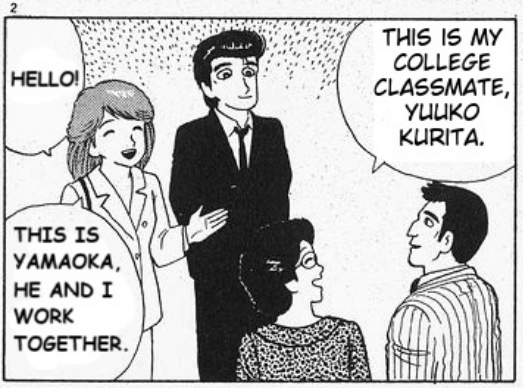


GINHEI ART GALLERY
銀青画廊
AN EXQUISITE ANCIENT BIZEN MASTERPIECE!


AH, WHAT A MAGNIFICENT PIECE THIS IS!
HMM... IS THIS FROM THE MOMOYAMA PERIOD...?

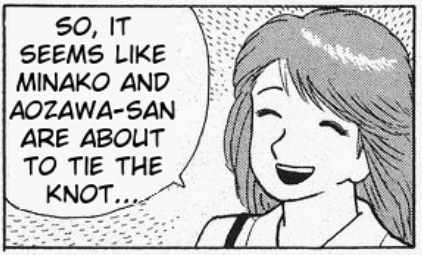
2

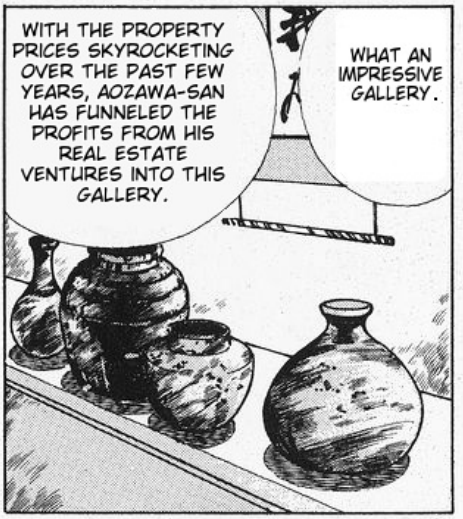

HELLO!
THIS IS MY COLLEGE CLASSMATE, YUUKO KURITA.
THIS IS YAMAOKA, HE AND I WORK TOGETHER.

MINAKO.
YUUKO, I'M SO GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT!

LET ME SHOW YOU AROUND.
EVERYTHING LOOKS JUST SPLENDID, DOESN'T IT?

THANK YOU FOR COMING TODAY; IT'S A PLEASURE TO HAVE YOU!
I'M AOZAWA.


SO, IT SEEMS LIKE MINAKO AND AOZAWA-SAN ARE ABOUT TO TIE THE KNOT...


WITH THE PROPERTY PRICES SKYROCKETING OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, AOZAWA-SAN HAS FUNNELED THE PROFITS FROM HIS REAL ESTATE VENTURES INTO THIS GALLERY.
WHAT AN IMPRESSIVE GALLERY.

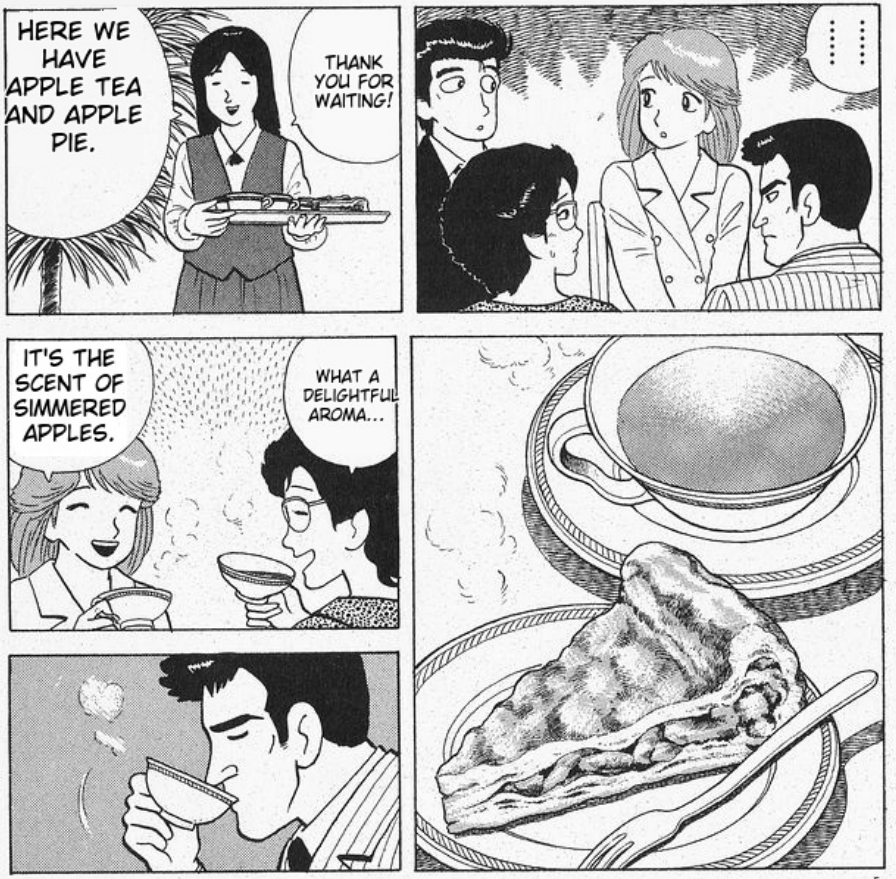
3

CAFE LEMON

SOUNDS DELIGHTFUL.
HOW ABOUT WE GRAB SOME TEA OUTSIDE?

ME TOO.
A BOUNTY OF APPLES, HUH? SOUNDS INTRIGUING, I THINK I'LL DO THAT TOO!
MENU
I'LL HAVE APPLE TEA AND APPLE PIE, PLEASE.
APPARENTLY, YOU'VE ACHIEVED TREMENDOUS SUCCESS LIKE NEVER BEFORE!
MR. AOZAWA STARTED HIS REAL ESTATE BUSINESS ALL ON HIS OWN FROM SCRATCH,
4
MY MOTHER LEFT ME BEHIND, TAKING MY LITTLE BROTHER WITH HER.
WHEN I WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, MY PARENTS GOT DIVORCED.
I GUESS MY MOTHER NEVER TRULY LOVED ME...
THE BITTERNESS OF BEING ABANDONED BY MY MOTHER AS A CHILD FORGED MY DETERMINATION, I BELIEVE.
I'VE GOT THE FIGHTING SPIRIT OF 'NOT GIVING UP' IN ME!
ABANDONED...?

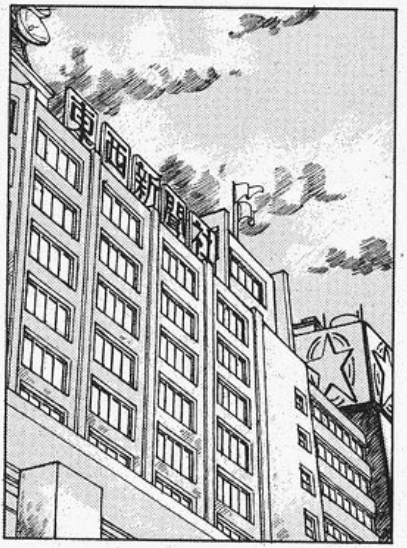
DELICIOUS!


HERE WE HAVE APPLE TEA AND APPLE PIE.
THANK YOU FOR WAITING!
.....
IT'S THE SCENT OF SIMMERED APPLES.
WHAT A DELIGHTFUL AROMA...
5
THIS APPLE PIE IS NOTHING BUT A FRAUD!
THE PIE CRUST AND THE APPLES INSIDE ARE A DISGRACE!
PLEASE, AOZAWA-SAN, STOP IT...
THIS AROMA IS NOTHING BUT FAKE!
TCH!

THIS APPLE TEA IS FROM 'MADELEINE,' REPUTED TO BE THE FINEST IN BALI.
AND THE APPLE PIE IS CRAFTED WITH CARE BY OUR PASTRY DEPARTMENT, USING ONLY THE BEST INGREDIENTS.
EXCUSE ME, IS THERE SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T MEET YOUR EXPECTATIONS?
THAT'S FINE. IT'S NOT LIKE I'M ASKING FOR A REPLACEMENT OR REFUSING TO PAY THE BILL.
PLEASE, DO FEEL FREE TO TAKE YOUR LEAVE.
AOZAWA-SAN ALWAYS ORDERS APPLE TEA AND APPLE PIE WHEREVER HE GOES.
AND WITHOUT FAIL, HE COMPLAINS THAT IT'S TERRIBLE...
IT CAN'T BE HELPED; IT'S TERRIBLE!
6
HMM...
I THINK I CAN UNDERSTAND WHAT AOZAWA-SAN IS SAYING.
AOZAWA-SAN, IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR YOU AND MINAKO, ISN'T IT?
HUH?

I TOLD YOU I WAS ABANDONED BY MY MOTHER, RIGHT? I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IN THE CONCEPT OF FAMILY.
I WON'T MARRY ANYONE.
I DON'T WANT A FAMILY AT ALL!!
WELL, WHY DON'T WE TALK ABOUT WHEN YOU TWO ARE GETTING MARRIED?
HOW COULD YOU SAY THAT?
MINAKO, WAIT!

I MEAN, I HAVE NO CLUE WHAT TO DO EITHER!

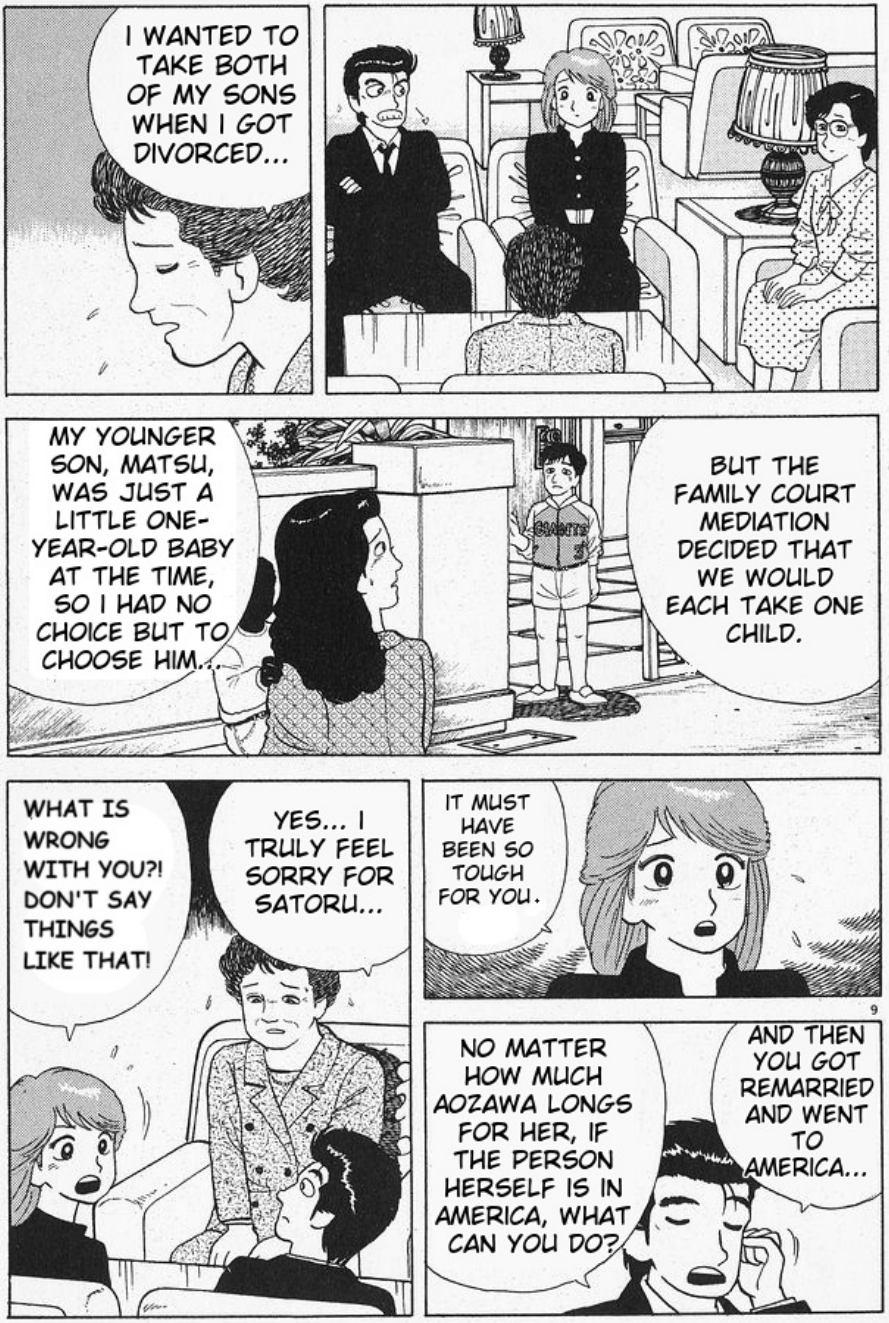


WHAT DO YOU EXPECT WILL HAPPEN IF HIS MOTHER JUST POPS BACK INTO THE PICTURE AFTER 20 YEARS?!

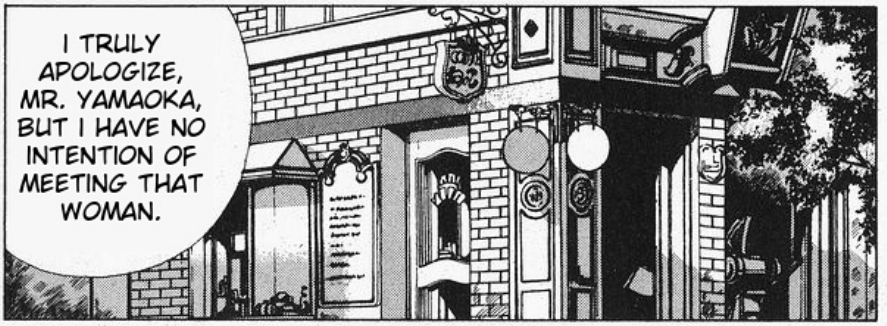
HOTEL SUSONO

BUT I'VE GOT A DRINKING PARTY WITH MY COLLEGE BUDDIES TODAY!
PLEASE! YOU CAN'T JUST LEAVE IT TO MINAKO AND ME!!!
LET GO!

8


I WANTED TO TAKE BOTH OF MY SONS WHEN I GOT DIVORCED...
MY YOUNGER SON, MATSU, WAS JUST A LITTLE ONE-YEAR-OLD BABY AT THE TIME, SO I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO CHOOSE HIM...
BUT THE FAMILY COURT MEDIATION DECIDED THAT WE WOULD EACH TAKE ONE CHILD.
WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU?! DON'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT!
YES... I TRULY FEEL SORRY FOR SATORU...
IT MUST HAVE BEEN SO TOUGH FOR YOU.
9
NO MATTER HOW MUCH AOZAWA LONGS FOR HER, IF THE PERSON HERSELF IS IN AMERICA, WHAT CAN YOU DO?
AND THEN YOU GOT REMARRIED AND WENT TO AMERICA...

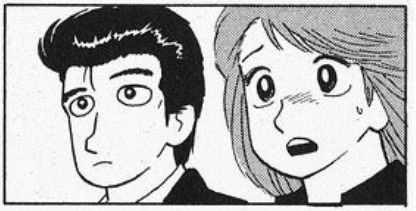
YOU'RE RELENTLESS, AREN'T YOU?
I TRIED TO GET HIM TO SEE HER, BUT NOW HE'S GIVING ME THE COLD SHOULDER, TOO!
BUT YOU SEE, SATORU INSISTS HE DOESN'T WANT TO SEE MOTHER.
I LEFT SATORU ALL ALONE...
IT'S ONLY NATURAL FOR SATORU TO HARBOR RESENTMENT TOWARDS ME.
BUT I YEARN TO SEE HIM JUST ONCE...
BUT...
I BELIEVE HE'S JUST WAITING FOR YOU TO OPEN UP TO HIM, YAMAOKA-SAN!
HE'S NEVER SPOKEN TO ANYONE ABOUT HIS MOTHER BEFORE!
WELL, I'VE ONLY MET HIM ONCE...
YAMAOKA-SAN, I BEG YOU, COULD YOU PERSUADE SATORU FOR ME?
10


I TRULY APOLOGIZE, MR. YAMAOKA, BUT I HAVE NO INTENTION OF MEETING THAT WOMAN.

AFTER TOSSING ME ASIDE, NOW, AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, SHE WANTS TO MEET?!
ENOUGH WITH YOUR SELFISHNESS! WHO WOULD WANT TO MEET HER?!

THAT WOMAN... SHE'S YOUR MOTHER!
IF SHE'S MY REAL MOTHER, THAT'S EVEN WORSE! I HAVE NO DESIRE TO FACE THE MOTHER WHO ABANDONED ME!

HOW COULD THEY INFUSE SUCH AN ARTIFICIAL, NAUSEATING SCENT INTO TEA LEAVES?!
DAMN IT... WHAT'S THIS NONSENSE ABOUT APPLE TEA?!



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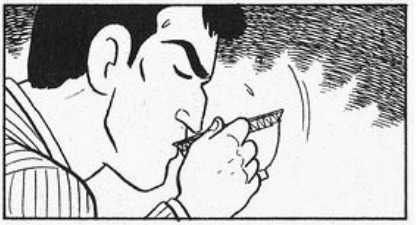


IT REEKS OF BIZARRE, SYNTHETIC FRAGRANCES! WHERE'S THE SWEET, TANTALIZING AROMA OF A REAL APPLE?
THIS APPLE PIE IS A SHAM! THE APPLES THEMSELVES ARE SO PITIFULLY BLAND THEY MAKE ME SHUDDER AND WANT TO CURL UP!
I SEEK AND I SEEK, YET WHAT I CRAVE REMAINS FOREVER LOST TO ME, SOMETHING I WILL NEVER RECLAIM.
INDEED...
FOR YOU, AOZAWA-SAN, BOTH APPLE TEA AND APPLE PIE ARE TRULY SPECIAL TREASURES.
YOU'RE RIGHT, AOZAWA-SAN.
12
.....

I'M SO SORRY I CAN'T BE OF HELP.

IT'S ALL MY FAULT; THIS IS THE PRICE I PAY FOR ABANDONING MY CHILD...
I SEE... THAT'S QUITE CLEAR.

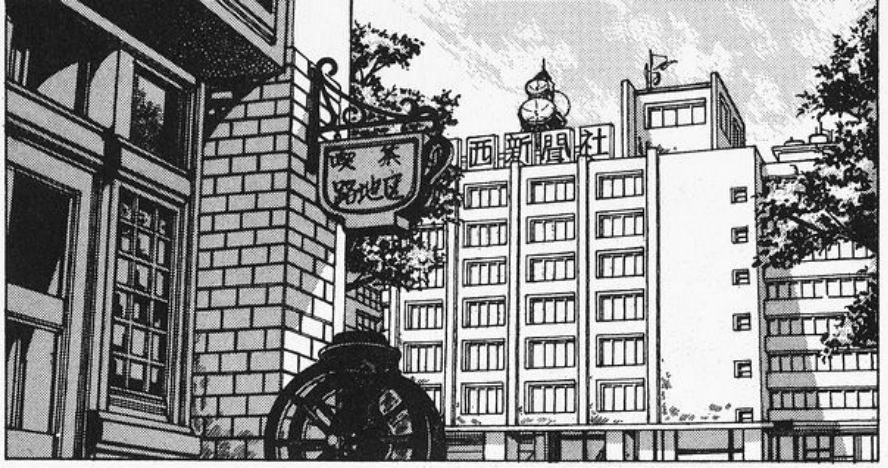
I'VE FINALLY COME TO TERMS WITH IT... I THINK I'LL BE HEADING BACK TO AMERICA ON THE PLANE THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW.
ABSOLUTELY NOT...

APPLE PIE?

BEFORE YOU LEAVE,
COULD YOU PLEASE WHIP UP AN APPLE PIE FOR ME?

MR. YAMAOKA!

CALL IT A HUNCH. I BET YOU MAKE SOME DELICIOUS APPLE TEA, TOO.
OH, HOW DID YOU KNOW I'M A WHIZ AT BAKING APPLE PIE?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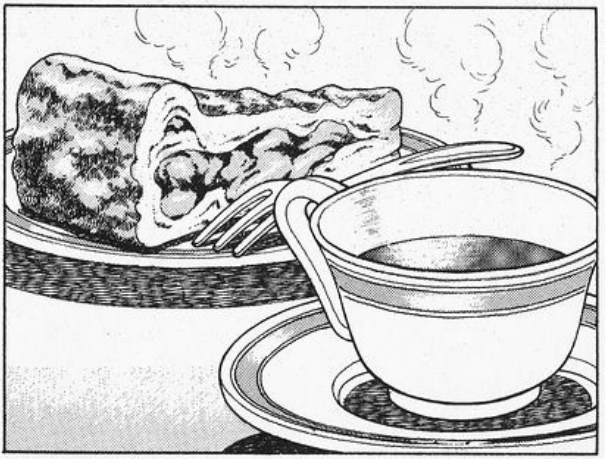
HERE THEY COME, RIGHT ON CUE!

I HAVE A FEELING YOU'RE GOING TO LOVE THIS!
WHAT DELIGHTFUL FEAST DO YOU HAVE IN STORE FOR US?

14

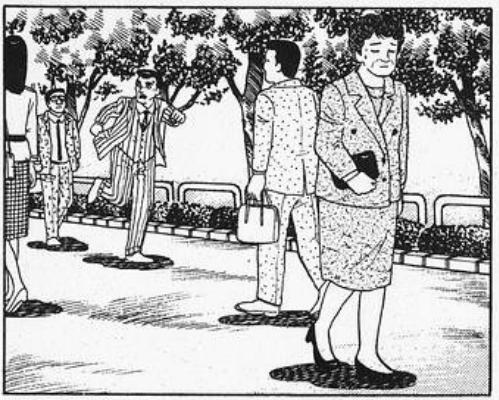


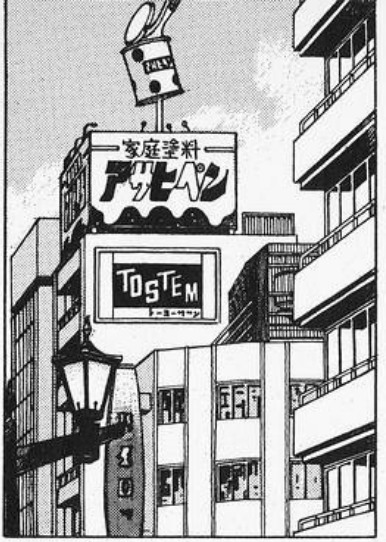
DELICIOUS!

OH MY?! THIS SCENT!!
APPLE TEA AND APPLE PIE...
AH, I SEE,
!
I WAS YEARNING FOR THIS APPLE TEA ALL ALONG...
THIS REFRESHING, NATURAL FRAGRANCE FILLS MY HEART WITH JOY...
SO PURE, SO SOFT, SO GENTLE IN ITS ESSENCE,
OH WOW... THE VIBRANT AROMA OF THE APPLES WITHIN!
AND THE EXQUISITE BALANCE OF TARTNESS AND SWEETNESS CREATES A RICH FLAVOR...!
ジュワ

THIS FLAVOR IS EXACTLY WHAT I'VE BEEN YEARNING FOR, DREAMING OF, AND CHASING AFTER...!!
16
I KNEW IT...!!
THERE WAS A WOMAN HERE JUST NOW, RIGHT?!
SHE JUST STEPPED OUT A MOMENT AGO.

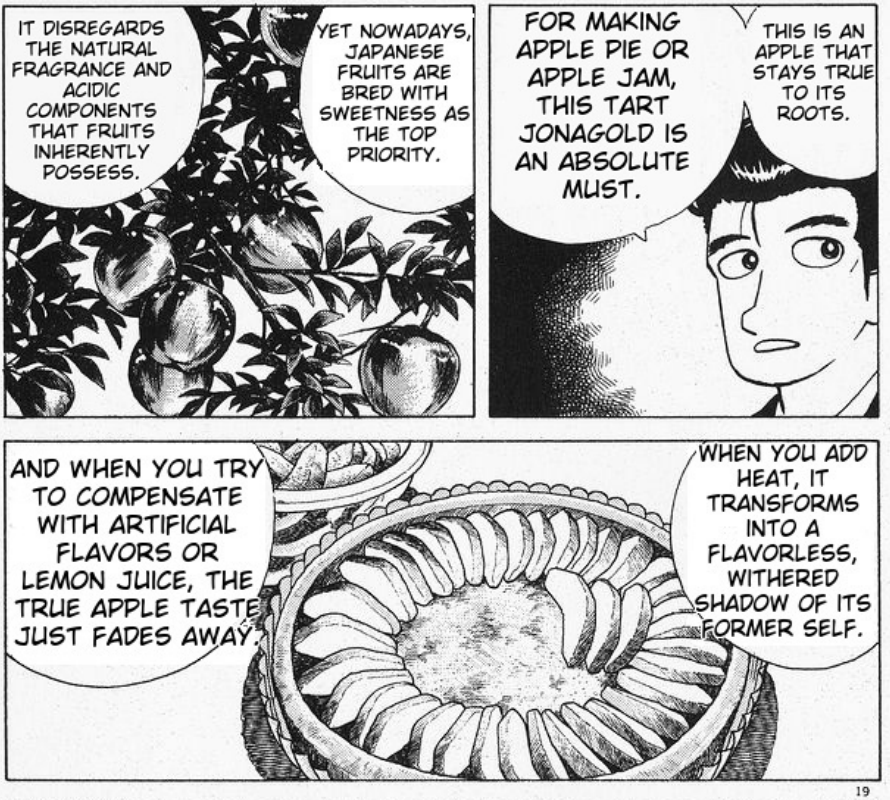
DELICIOUS!





WHAT MAKES IT SO DIFFERENT FROM THE PIES OVER THERE?
WHY DOES THE APPLE INSIDE TASTE SO GOOD,
THAT'S BECAUSE THE APPLES ARE DIFFERENT!
IT'S A PERFECTLY CRAFTED APPLE PIE!
AND OVER HERE, WE HAVE THE JONAGOLD APPLE.
THIS BIG ONE HERE IS SWEET AND THE MOST POPULAR APPLE AROUND.
18
WOW, THAT'S SO SOUR!
カプ
GIVE IT A TASTE.

DELICIOUS!



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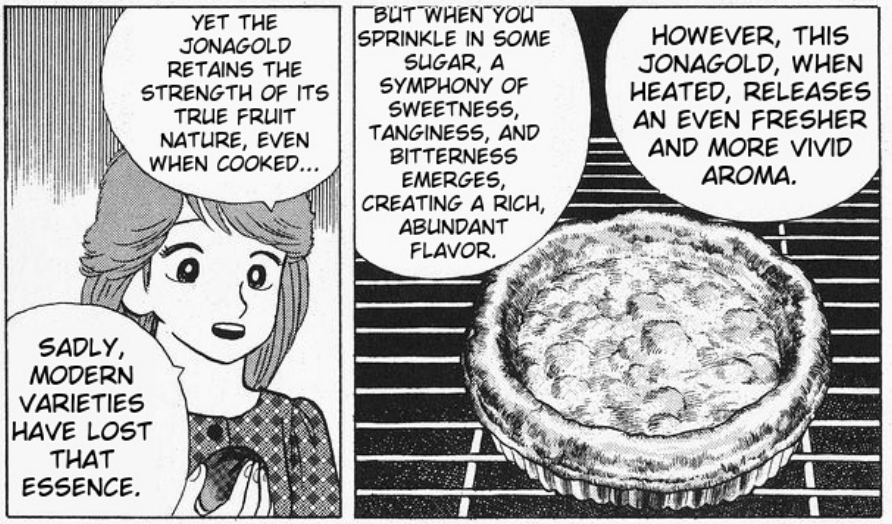
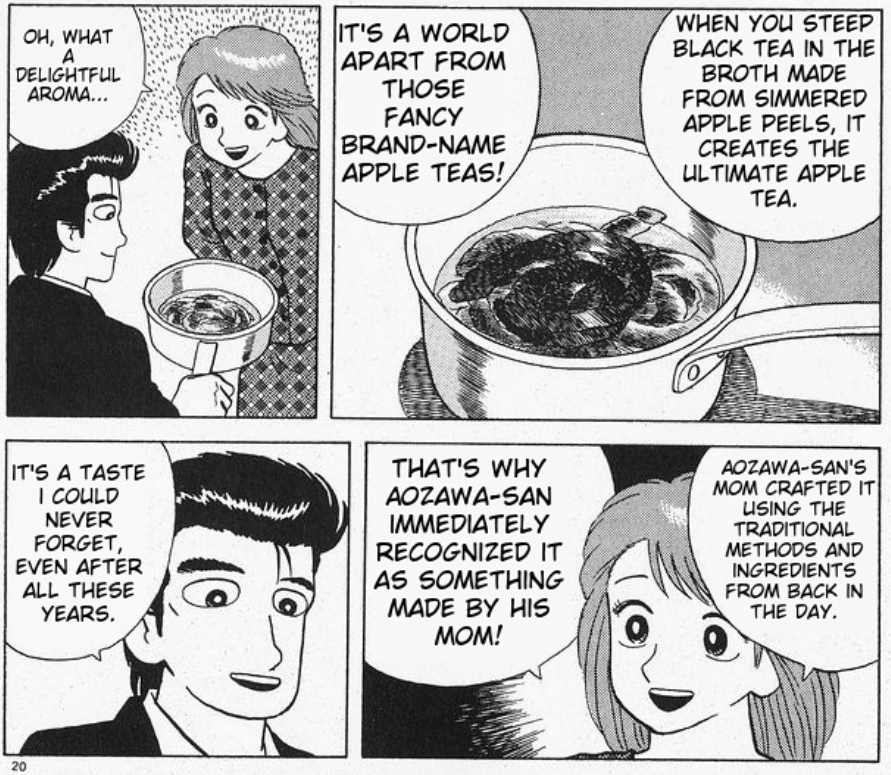
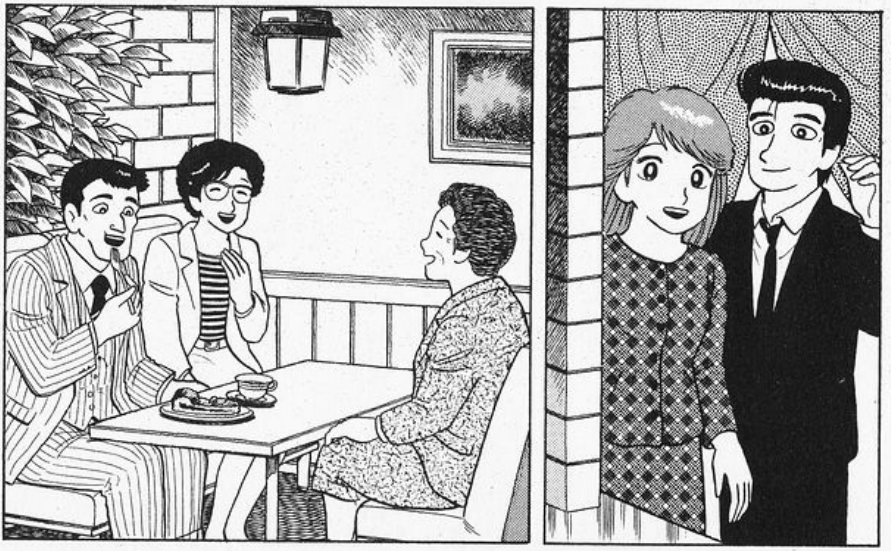



OH, WHAT A DELIGHTFUL AROMA...
IT'S A WORLD APART FROM THOSE FANCY BRAND-NAME APPLE TEAS!
WHEN YOU STEEP BLACK TEA IN THE BROTH MADE FROM SIMMERED APPLE PEELS, IT CREATES THE ULTIMATE APPLE TEA.
IT'S A TASTE I COULD NEVER FORGET, EVEN AFTER ALL THESE YEARS.
THAT'S WHY AOZAWA-SAN IMMEDIATELY RECOGNIZED IT AS SOMETHING MADE BY HIS MOM!
AOZAWA-SAN'S MOM CRAFTED IT USING THE TRADITIONAL METHODS AND INGREDIENTS FROM BACK IN THE DAY.
20



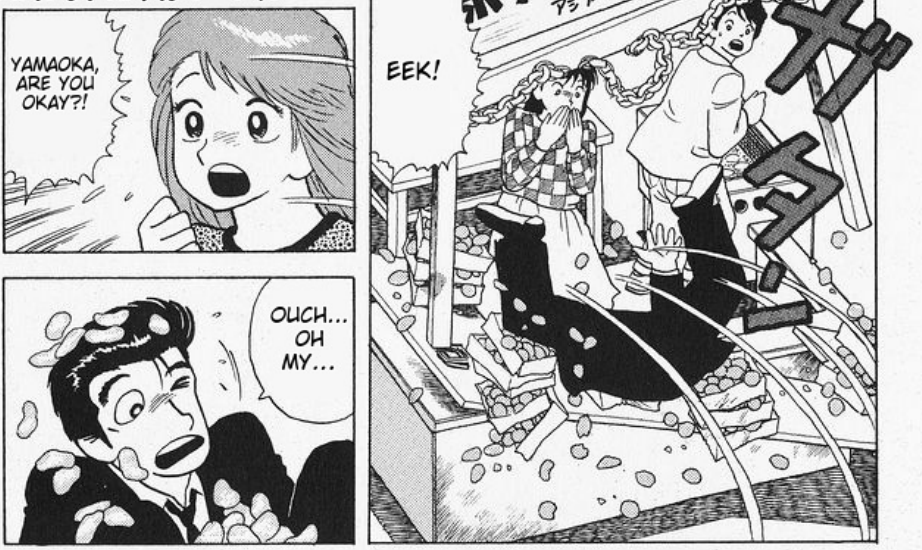
第6話
ポテトボンボン

STEP RIGHT UP, STEP RIGHT UP!
HOW ABOUT TRYING THE INFAMOUS, UTTERLY TERRIBLE HAMBURGERS FROM TŌTO UNIVERSITY?
バーガー
東都大名物
ヤキソバ
大盛 300円
フライドチ
安い!! うまい!!
東都祭
学園祭
タコやき
ホットドック
安い
LET'S MUNCH ON SOME TAKOYAKI AND SOOTHE THOSE ANCESTRAL SPIRITS!
OH, YOU THERE! YOUR ANCESTORS' SPIRITS ARE STIRRING UP!
たこや
うどん
ラーメン
TOHTO UN
RUGBY FOOTBA
IT CAN'T JUST BE ALL ABOUT THE FOOD STALLS, CAN IT?
IF YOU HEAD OVER TO THE AUDITORIUM OR CLASSROOMS, THERE ARE BOUND TO BE MORE CULTURALLY ENRICHING EVENTS HAPPENING!
MY GOODNESS... IS THE UNIVERSITY FESTIVAL JUST A CARNIVAL AFTER ALL?
THIS IS HARDLY SUITABLE FOR THE UNIVERSITY FESTIVAL FEATURE IN THE CULTURAL SECTION...

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 14!

キャー
怪家イワシ来たる!!
キャー
キャー
SEE, I KNEW IT WOULD BE JUST LIKE THAT-
A FOOD STALL FEATURING A CELEBRITY FROM THE TV...
4
OUCH, OUCH, OUCH!
AH, IT'S NO SURPRISE COMING FROM YOUR ALMA MATER.
WOW, THIS IS TRULY CULTURED, ISN'T IT?
ドカッ
HEY, THAT'S SUPER ANNOYING!

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 14!



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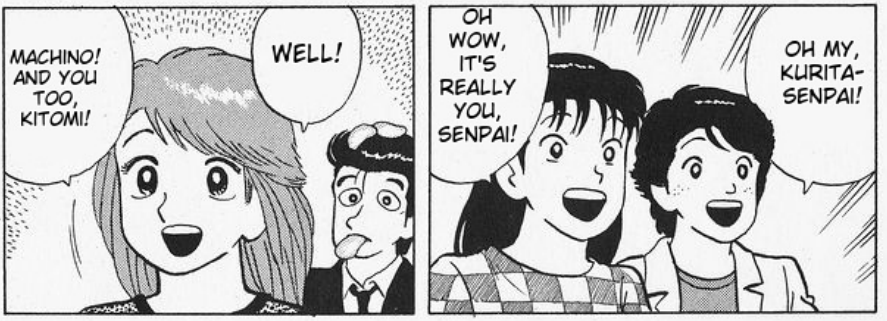
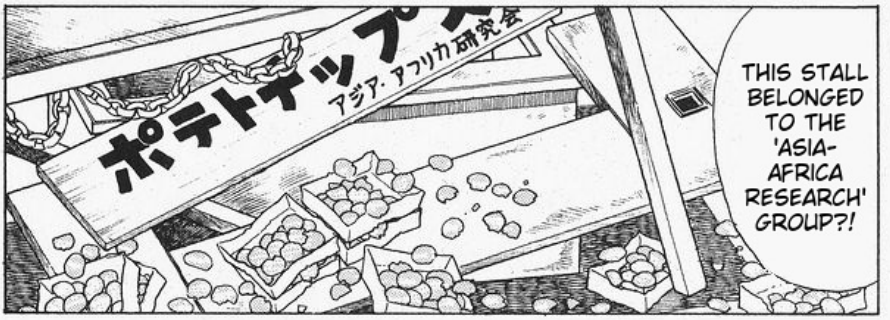
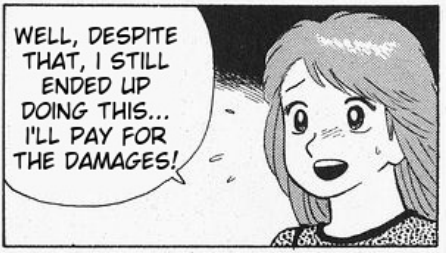



ポテトチップス
アジア・アフリカ研究会
THIS STALL BELONGED TO THE 'ASIA-AFRICA RESEARCH' GROUP?!

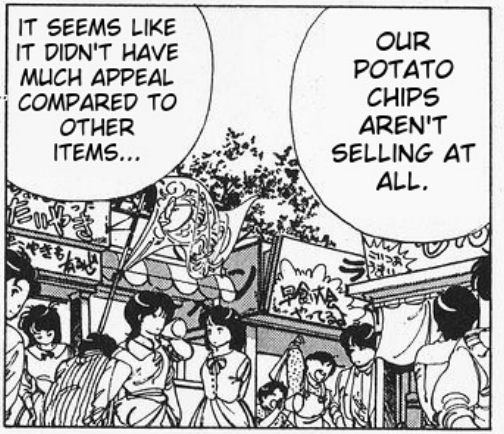

WELL, DESPITE THAT, I STILL ENDED UP DOING THIS... I'LL PAY FOR THE DAMAGES!

WE SET UP THIS STALL TO RAISE FUNDS.
THAT'S RIGHT.

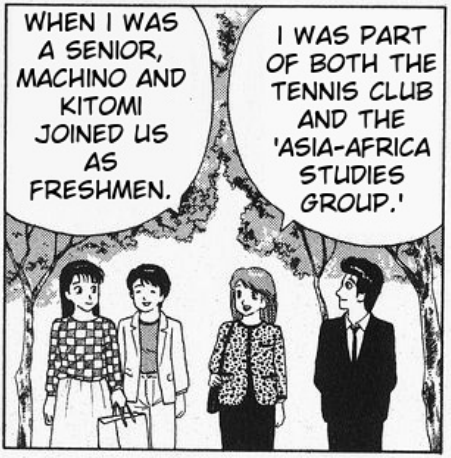
HONESTLY, WE WERE JUST ABOUT TO CLOSE UP SHOP ANYWAY...
IT'S FINE...

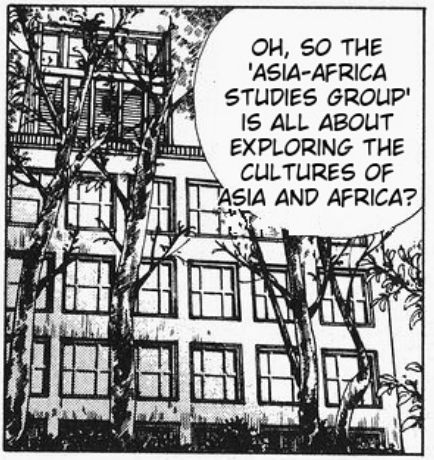
6

OH DEAR, THAT'S QUITE THE PREDICAMENT... OH DEAR...


IT SEEMS LIKE IT DIDN'T HAVE MUCH APPEAL COMPARED TO OTHER ITEMS...
OUR POTATO CHIPS AREN'T SELLING AT ALL.

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 14!





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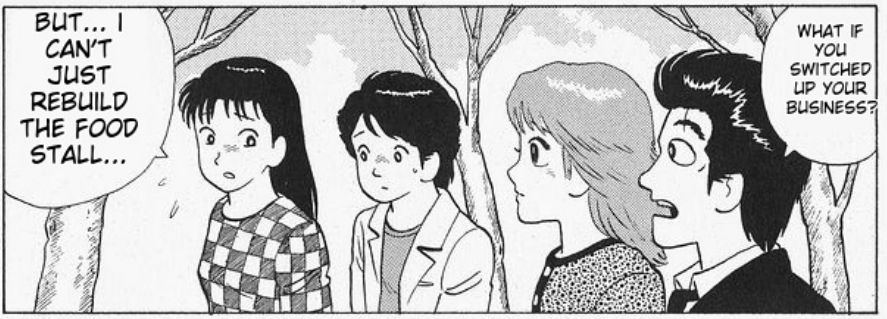
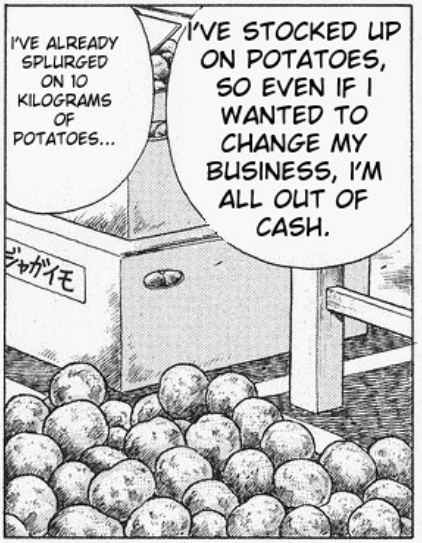

BUT... I CAN'T JUST REBUILD THE FOOD STALL...
WHAT IF YOU SWITCHED UP YOUR BUSINESS?

10 KILOS?!

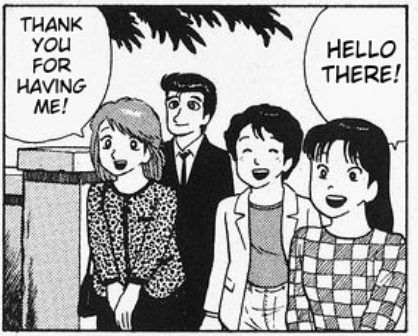
I THOUGHT THEY WOULD SELL LIKE HOTCAKES...


I'VE ALREADY SPLURGED ON 10 KILOGRAMS OF POTATOES...
I'VE STOCKED UP ON POTATOES, SO EVEN IF I WANTED TO CHANGE MY BUSINESS, I'M ALL OUT OF CASH.
ジャガイモ

8

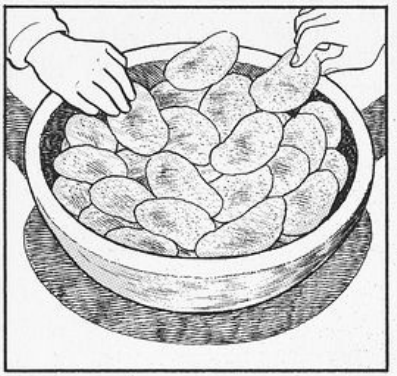
COUNTING YOUR CHICKENS BEFORE THEY HATCH, ARE WE? THAT'S GOING A BIT FAR!
GOOD GRIEF,

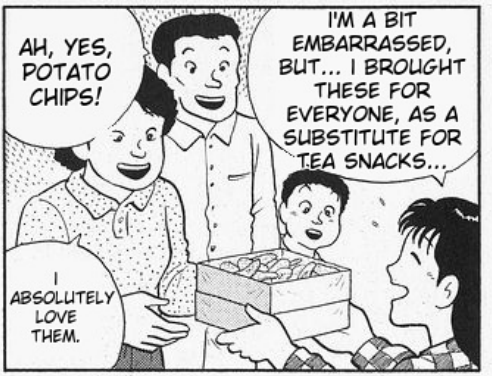
WOW, THAT'S INCREDIBLE!
COME ON IN AFTER DINNER; I'M TREATING YOU TO SOME AMAZING VIETNAMESE CUISINE!

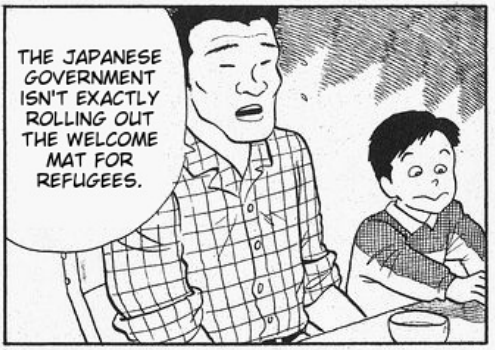

THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME!
HELLO THERE!

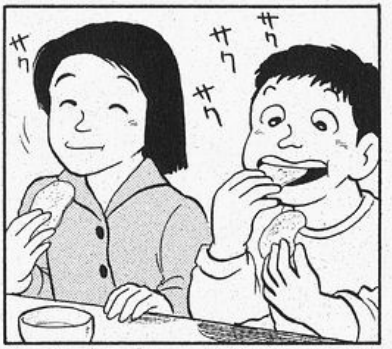
9

WELCOME TO THE NEW FRIEND EXTRAVAGANZA!
PLEASE, MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME,




AH, YES, POTATO CHIPS!
I'M A BIT EMBARRASSED, BUT... I BROUGHT THESE FOR EVERYONE, AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR TEA SNACKS...
I ABSOLUTELY LOVE THEM.


THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT ISN'T EXACTLY ROLLING OUT THE WELCOME MAT FOR REFUGEES.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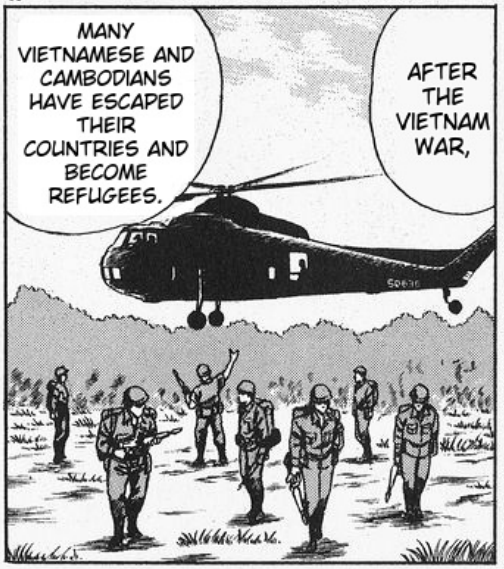
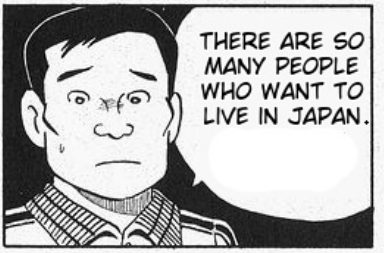
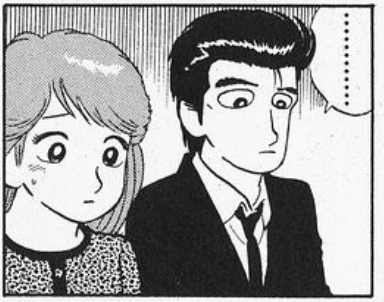
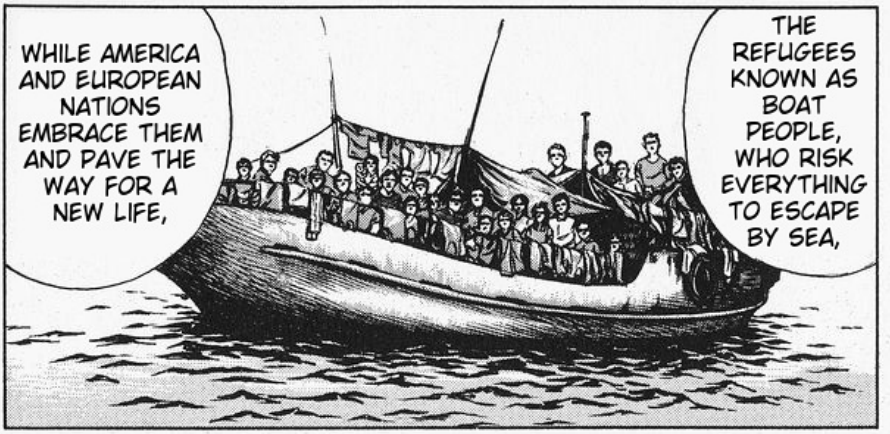
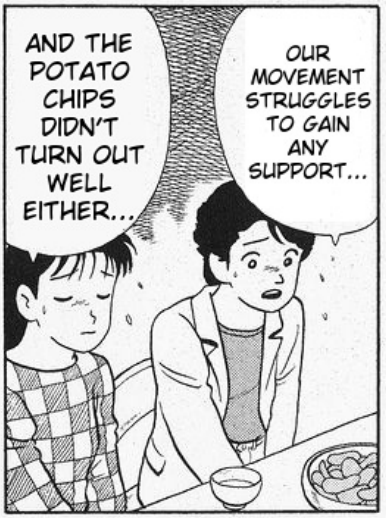
10

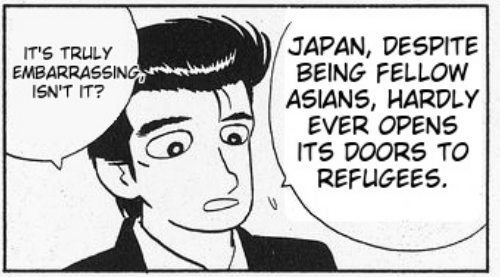

MANY VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIANS HAVE ESCAPED THEIR COUNTRIES AND BECOME REFUGEES.
AFTER THE VIETNAM WAR,


THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE WHO WANT TO LIVE IN JAPAN.




WHILE AMERICA AND EUROPEAN NATIONS EMBRACE THEM AND PAVE THE WAY FOR A NEW LIFE,
THE REFUGEES KNOWN AS BOAT PEOPLE, WHO RISK EVERYTHING TO ESCAPE BY SEA,

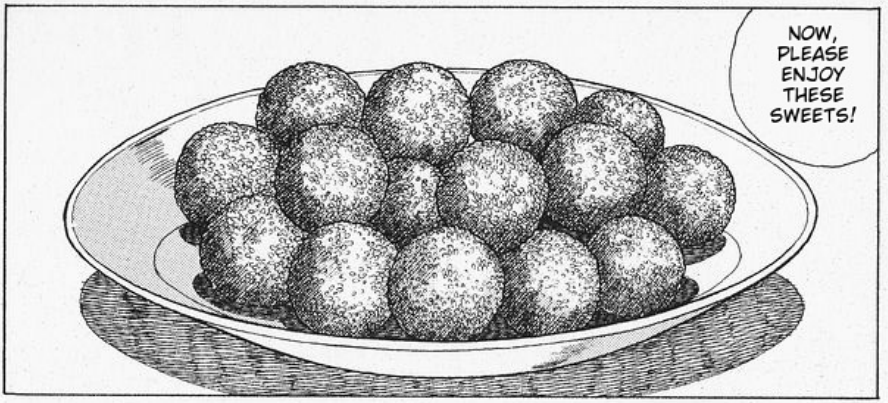

AND THE POTATO CHIPS DIDN'T TURN OUT WELL EITHER...
OUR MOVEMENT STRUGGLES TO GAIN ANY SUPPORT...


IT'S TRULY EMBARRASSING, ISN'T IT?
JAPAN, DESPITE BEING FELLOW ASIANS, HARDLY EVER OPENS ITS DOORS TO REFUGEES.

AT THIS RATE, IT'S NO WONDER THE WORLD DISLIKES US AND LOOKS DOWN ON US!

11

ABSOLUTELY, WE'RE READY TO LEND A HAND TOO!
HEY, HEY, DON'T LET THAT GET YOU DOWN!


NOW, PLEASE ENJOY THESE SWEETS!

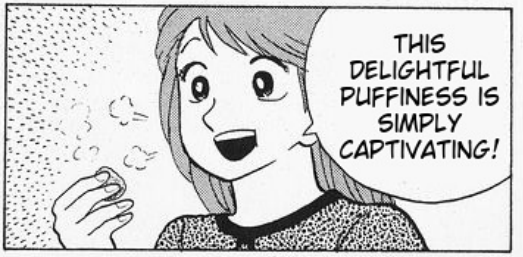
IT'S A CHINESE TREAT, THE SESAME BALL!

PERFECTLY ROUND AND PUFFED UP!
OH WOW, WHAT A UNIQUE DESSERT!

12

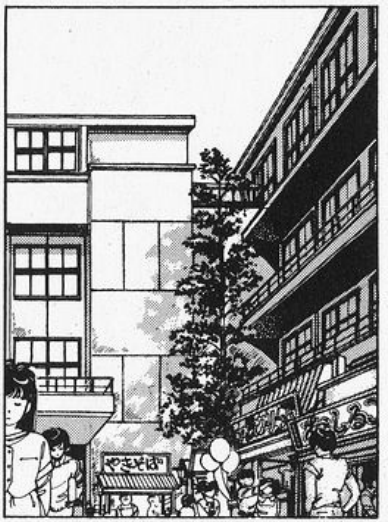
THE SPACE BETWEEN THE SWEET FILLING AND THE OUTER SHELL CREATES A HOLLOW SENSATION, AND WHEN YOU BITE INTO IT, A BURST OF AIR ESCAPES WITH AN INDESCRIBABLE PLEASURE!
ABSOLUTELY!

FRESHLY HOT AND...
WHOA!


THIS DELIGHTFUL PUFFINESS IS SIMPLY CAPTIVATING!

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 14!

ポテトチップス
アツアツアブリ試食会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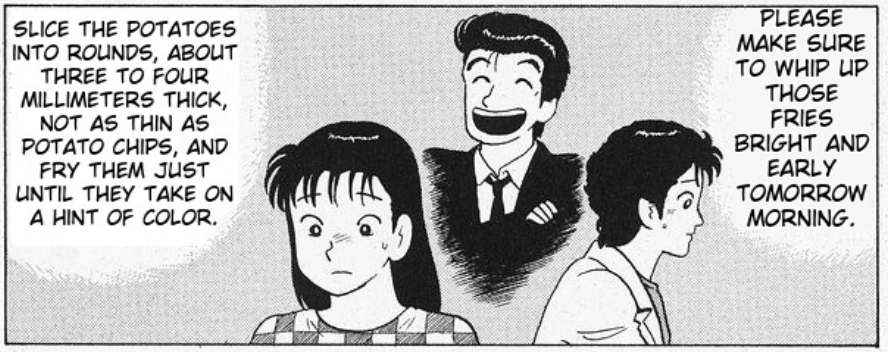
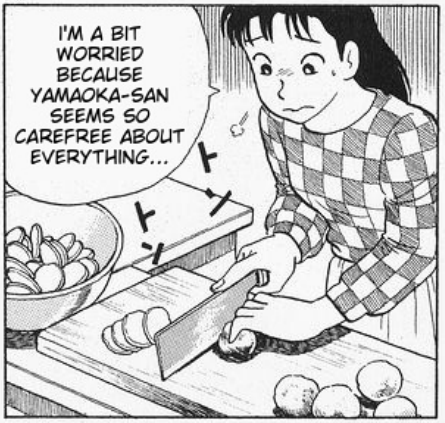

SLICE THE POTATOES INTO ROUNDS, ABOUT THREE TO FOUR MILLIMETERS THICK, NOT AS THIN AS POTATO CHIPS, AND FRY THEM JUST UNTIL THEY TAKE ON A HINT OF COLOR.
PLEASE MAKE SURE TO WHIP UP THOSE FRIES BRIGHT AND EARLY TOMORROW MORNING.

14


I'M A BIT WORRIED BECAUSE YAMAOKA-SAN SEEMS SO CAREFREE ABOUT EVERYTHING...
トン
トン

EVEN POTATO CHIPS DIDN'T SELL, SO HOW ON EARTH WILL FRIES DO ANY BETTER...

DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 14!

WELL, JUST YOU WAIT AND SEE... HEY...
WAIT, SERIOUSLY?! YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!
THEY NEED TO CHILL OUT BEFORE THEY CAN BE REVIVED.
OH MY, ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO REHEAT THOSE COLD FRIES?
NO WAY... REHEATING SOMETHING THAT'S ALREADY GONE COLD?
16
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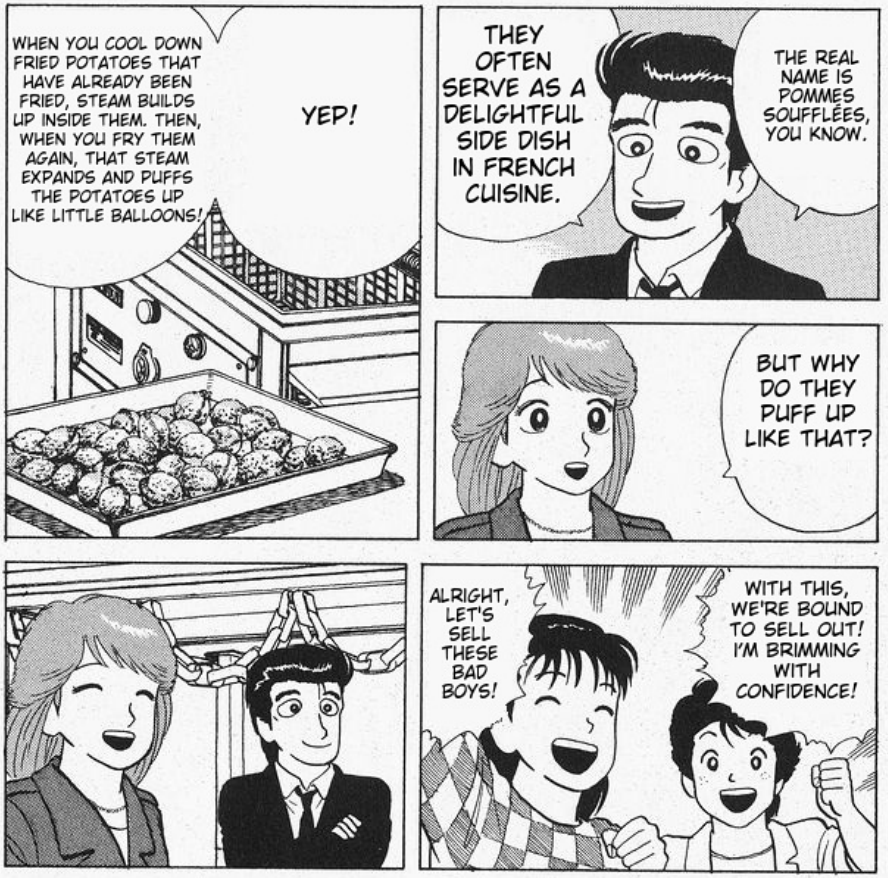
DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 14!


WHEN YOU COOL DOWN FRIED POTATOES THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN FRIED, STEAM BUILDS UP INSIDE THEM. THEN, WHEN YOU FRY THEM AGAIN, THAT STEAM EXPANDS AND PUFFS THE POTATOES UP LIKE LITTLE BALLOONS!
YEP!
THEY OFTEN SERVE AS A DELIGHTFUL SIDE DISH IN FRENCH CUISINE.
THE REAL NAME IS POMMES SOUFFLÉES, YOU KNOW.
BUT WHY DO THEY PUFF UP LIKE THAT?
ALRIGHT, LET'S SELL THESE BAD BOYS!
WITH THIS, WE'RE BOUND TO SELL OUT! I'M BRIMMING WITH CONFIDENCE!

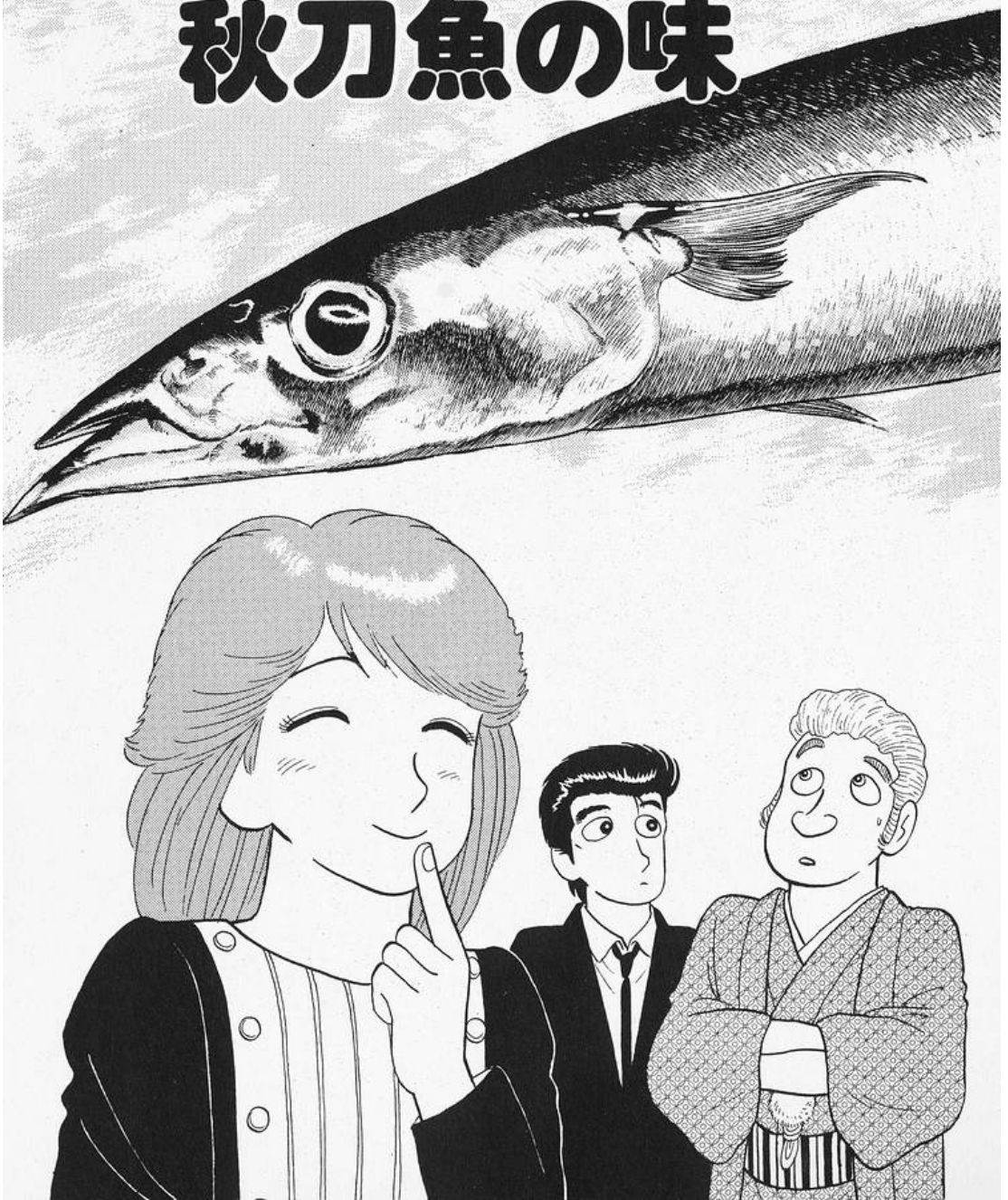
ポテトボンボン
アジア・アフリカ研究会

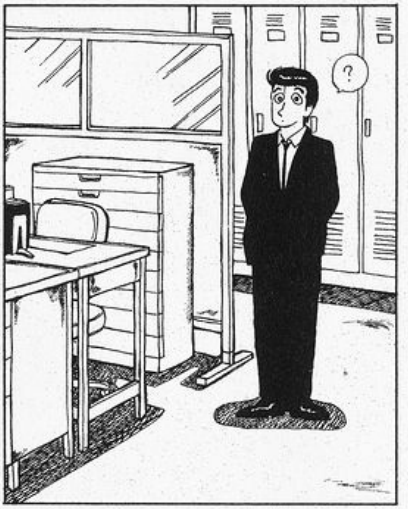
DELICIOUSNESS UNLEASHED 14!

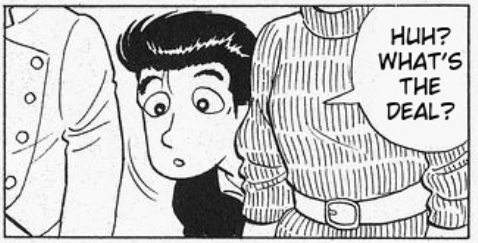
I SEE, SO THESE MODERN UNIVERSITY FESTIVALS ARE ALL ABOUT FOOD STALLS AND CELEBRITIES, HUH...
東西新聞社
グター
HUH?
MAYBE IF WE STICK HIM IN A DEEP FRYER, HE'LL PUFF BACK UP?
WHAT HAPPENED TO YAMAOKA? HE LOOKS COMPLETELY DRAINED...
20
HEY, I HEARD THAT!!!
I SHOULDN'T HAVE BOTHERED WITH THOSE POTATO GIRLS AT ALL...

第7話

秋刀魚（さんま）の味







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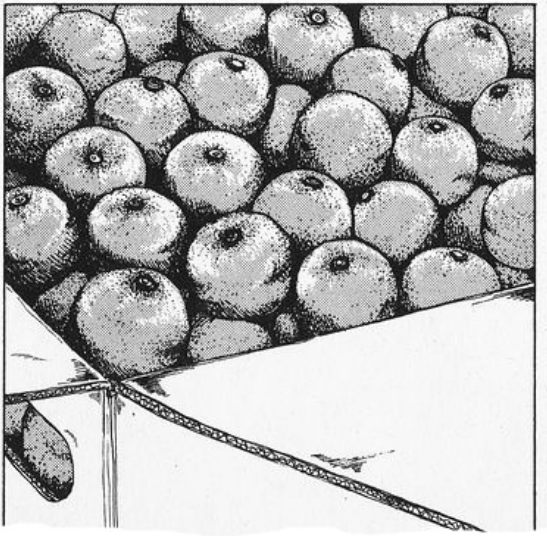
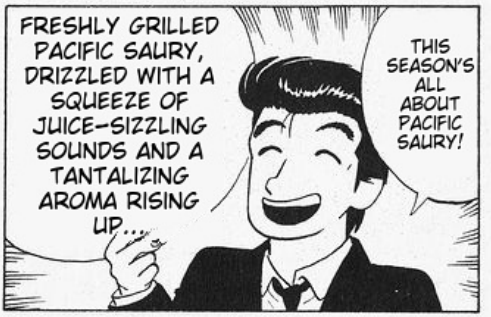
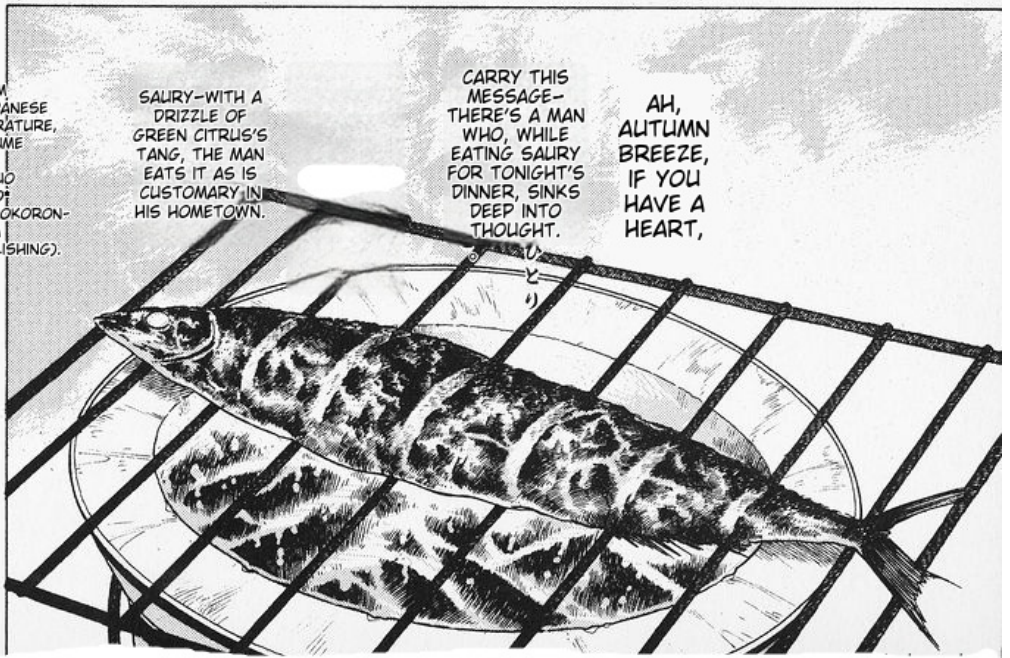


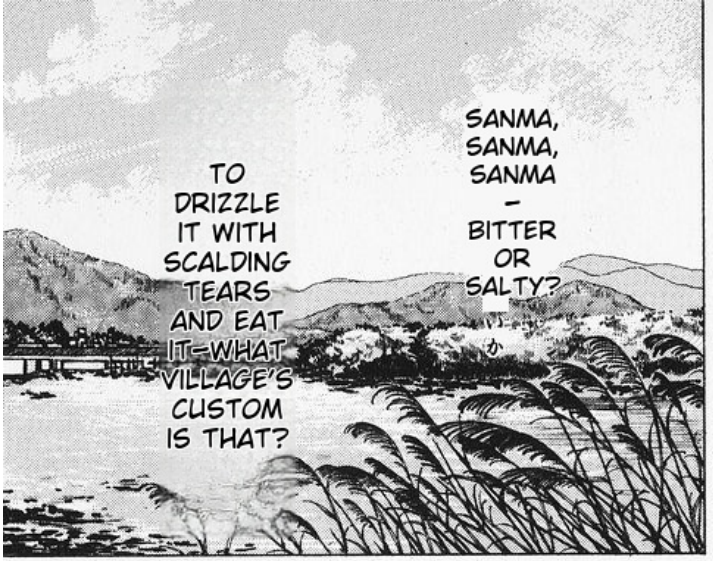
*TL NOTE: FOR THOSE THAT DON'T KNOW, SUDACHI ARE A CITRUS FRUIT SIMILAR TO LEMONS OR LIMES.

SHUT IT! THOSE WITH FAMILIES HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO TAKE MORE!
CHUCKLE CHUCKLE, OH, THIS IS A BLESSING– I'LL BE ENTERTAINED FOR A WHILE NOW!
AH, SO IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN–THE SEASON FOR FRESH SUDACHI.
WAIT, WHAT?! ONLY THREE? THAT'S JUST CRUEL!
HEY, HEY, YOUR SHARE IS JUST THREE, GOT IT?
WOW!
HI, GUYS!
3
YIKES, WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED HERE?
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
MR. BLACK...
WE'RE NOT SHARING THE SUDACHI WITH HIM!
OH NO... THIS IS BAD...

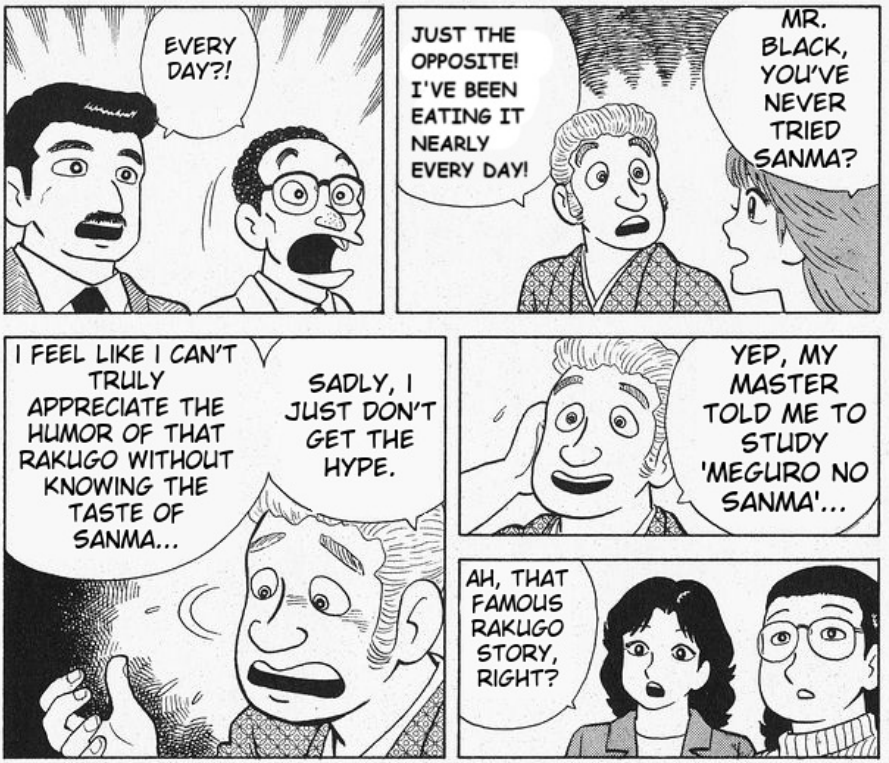




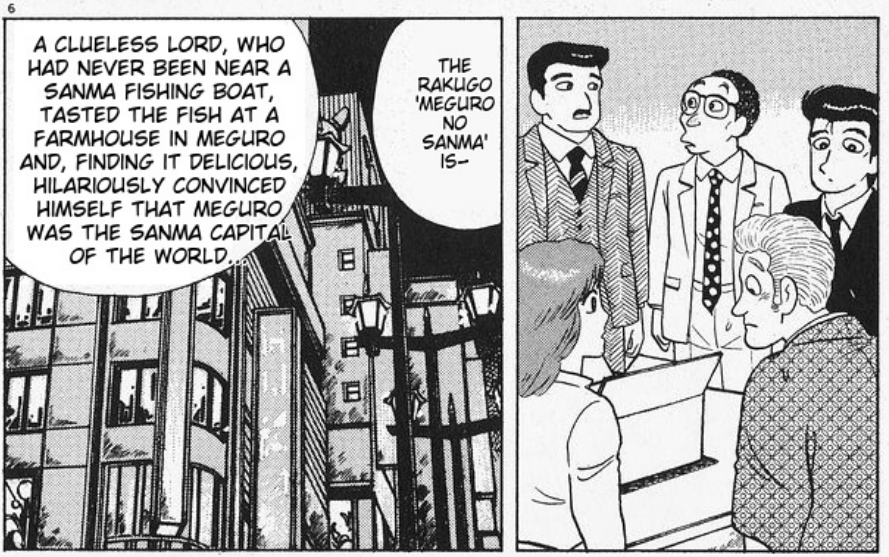
FROM *JAPANESE LITERATURE, VOLUME 31: HARUO SATO* (CHUOKORON-SHA PUBLISHING).



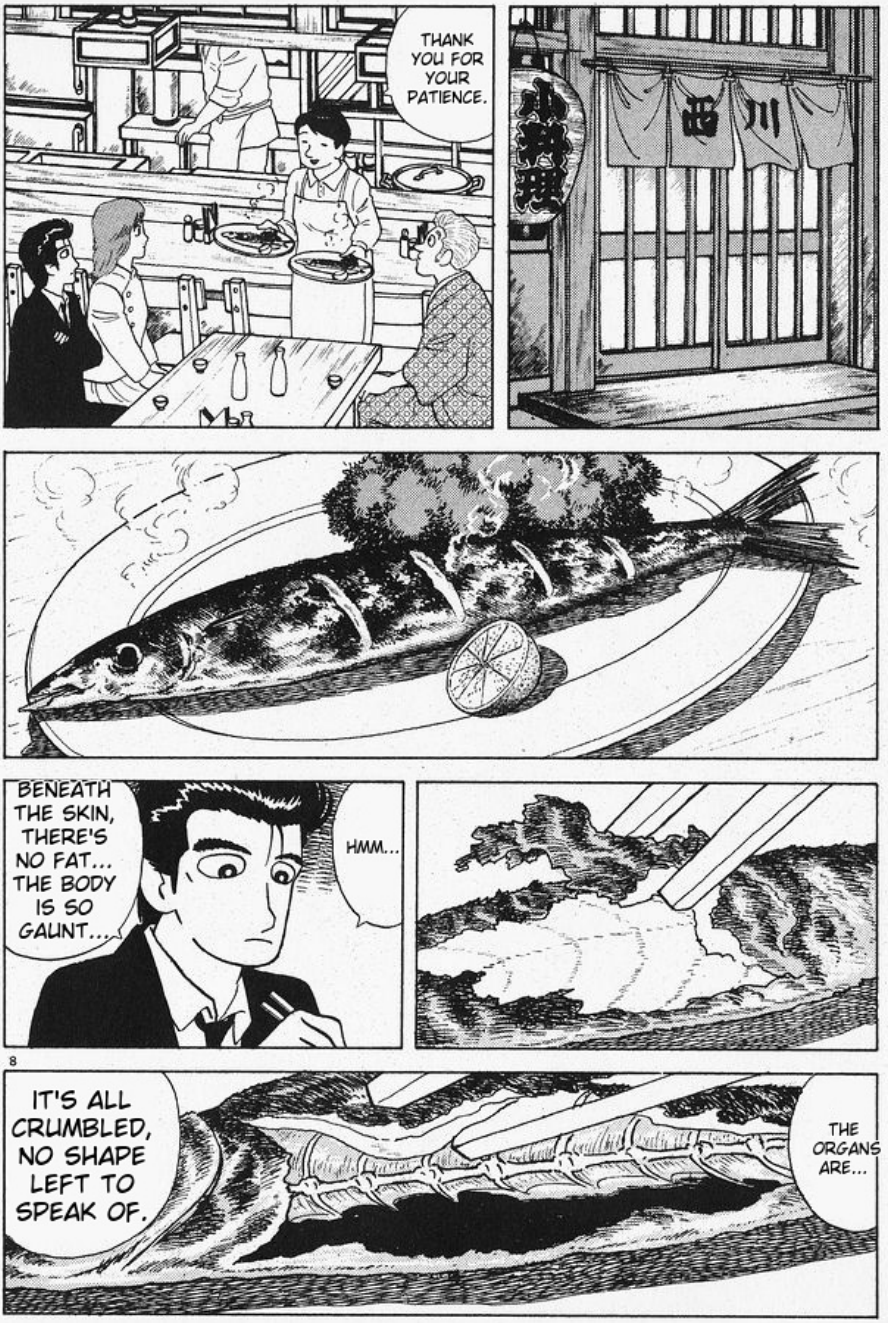
*TL NOTE: SANMA IS ANOTHER NAME FOR PACIFIC SAURY.


EVERY DAY?!
JUST THE OPPOSITE! I'VE BEEN EATING IT NEARLY EVERY DAY!
MR. BLACK, YOU'VE NEVER TRIED SANMA?
I FEEL LIKE I CAN'T TRULY APPRECIATE THE HUMOR OF THAT RAKUGO WITHOUT KNOWING THE TASTE OF SANMA...
SADLY, I JUST DON'T GET THE HYPE.
YEP, MY MASTER TOLD ME TO STUDY 'MEGURO NO SANMA'...
AH, THAT FAMOUS RAKUGO STORY, RIGHT?

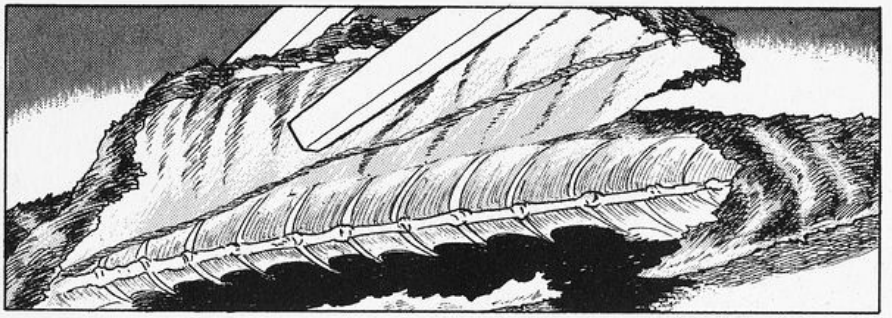
6

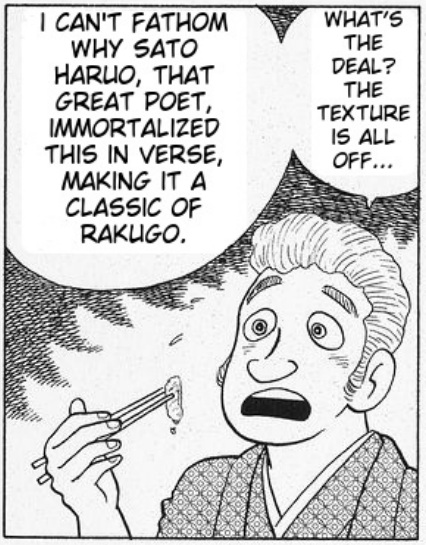

A CLUELESS LORD, WHO HAD NEVER BEEN NEAR A SANMA FISHING BOAT, TASTED THE FISH AT A FARMHOUSE IN MEGURO AND, FINDING IT DELICIOUS, HILARIOUSLY CONVINCED HIMSELF THAT MEGURO WAS THE SANMA CAPITAL OF THE WORLD...
THE RAKUGO 'MEGURO NO SANMA' IS-

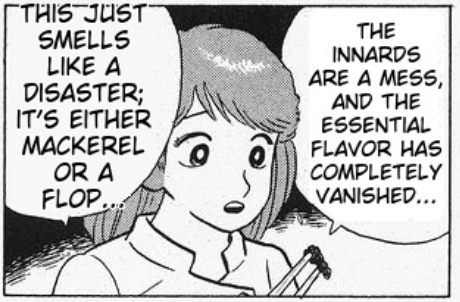
'SAURY IS BEST FROM MEGURO,' HE SAYS.
UPON HEARING FROM HIS SERVANT THAT THE SAURY WAS CAUGHT IN CHOSHI, THE LORD GOES, 'OH, THAT WON'T DO.
STEAMING ALL THE FAT OUT COMPLETELY RUINS THE DELICIOUSNESS OF THE SAURY, BUT THAT'S WHAT MAKES IT AMUSING...
THE SERVANTS, WORRIED THAT THE SAURY THEY BROUGHT FROM CHOSHI MIGHT BE TOO OILY...
HONESTLY, IT'S SOMETHING I JUST CAN'T WRAP MY HEAD AROUND...
ULTIMATELY, THE STORY REVOLVES AROUND THE SAURY FLAVOR BEING THE CENTER OF IT ALL, SEE...
WAIT, REALLY?! YOU'RE SERIOUS?!
THESE PAST FEW YEARS, I MYSELF HAVEN'T ONCE THOUGHT SAURY TASTED GOOD.
WAIT, HOLD ON...
7
AT MY HOUSE TOO, WHENEVER SAURY IS SERVED, MY GRANDMA AND DAD ALWAYS COMPLAIN ABOUT HOW IT DOESN'T TASTE GOOD.
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...


THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.
西川
BENEATH THE SKIN, THERE'S NO FAT... THE BODY IS SO GAUNT...
HMM...
8
IT'S ALL CRUMBLED, NO SHAPE LEFT TO SPEAK OF.
THE ORGANS ARE...

–FROM *DELICIOUS ADVENTURES*, VOL. 14







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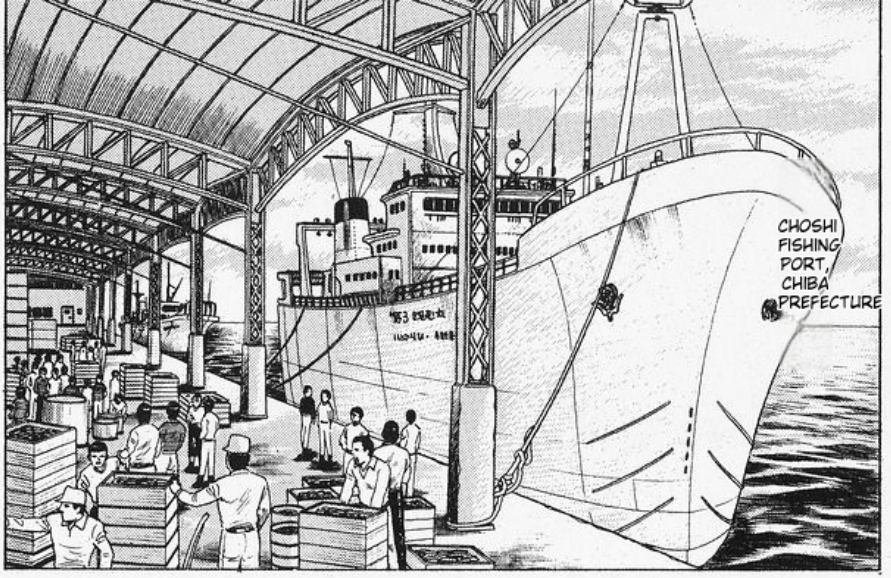
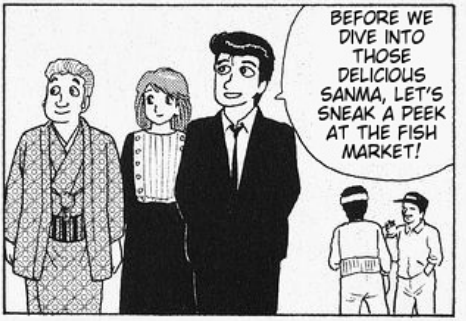
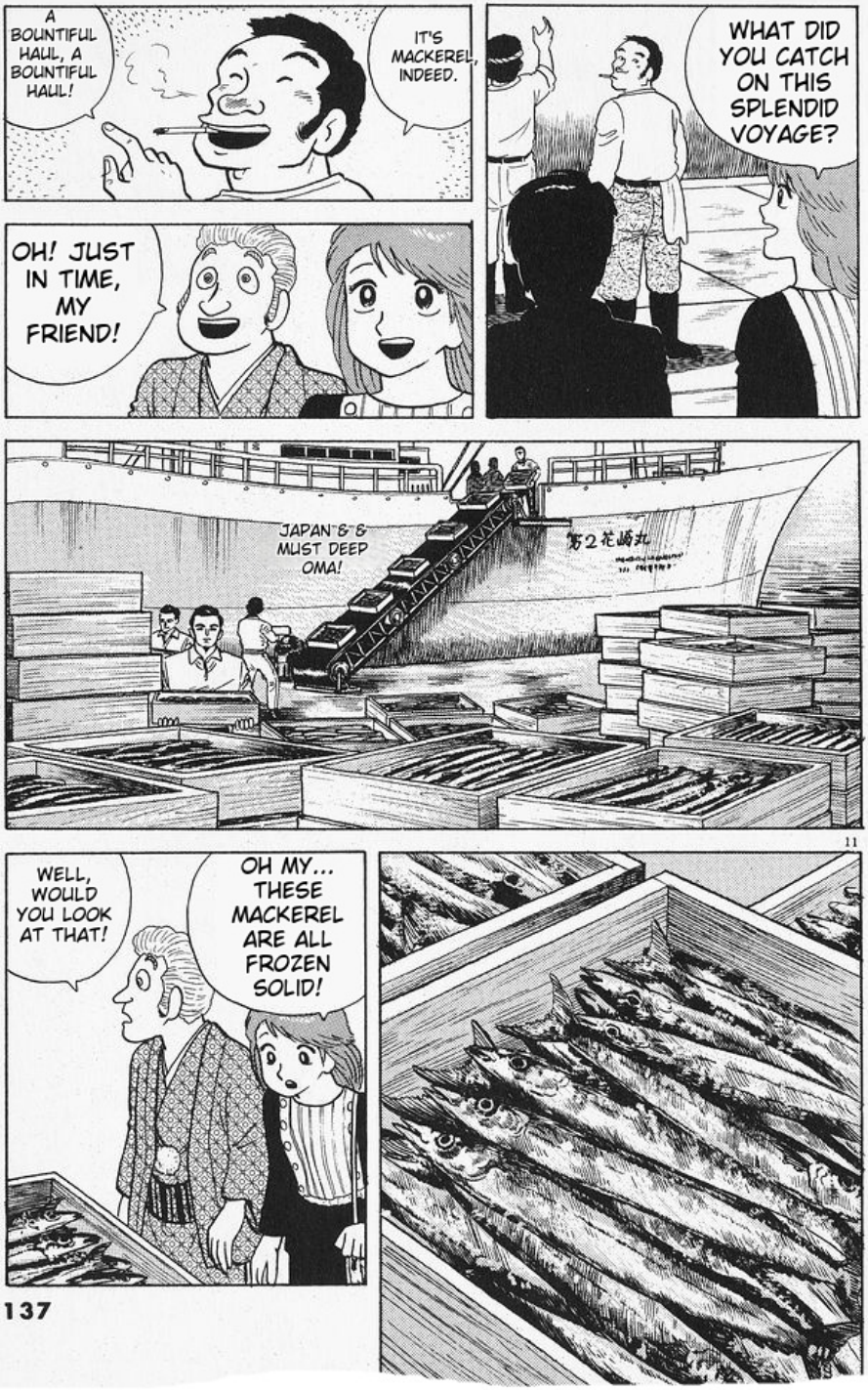

CHOSHI FISHING PORT, CHIBA PREFECTURE

10


BEFORE WE DIVE INTO THOSE DELICIOUS SANMA, LET'S SNEAK A PEEK AT THE FISH MARKET!

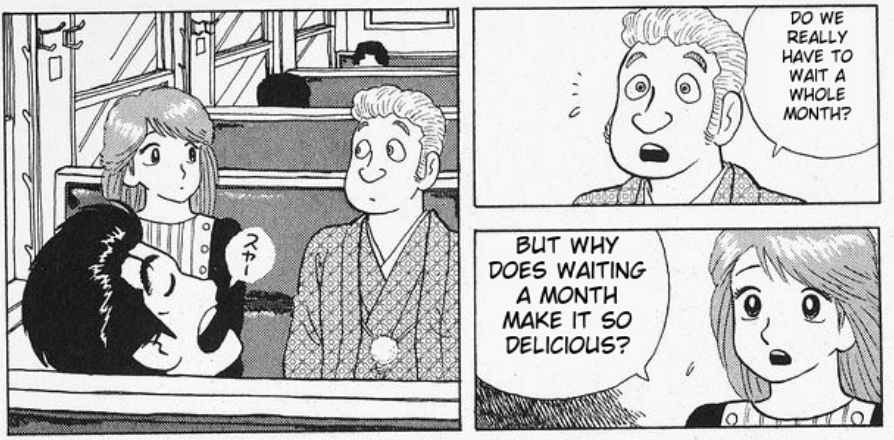
LOOK AT ALL THE FISH COMING IN!
CHECK IT OUT,

–FROM *DELICIOUS ADVENTURES*, VOL. 14



WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?!
HUH?
I GET IT NOW!!
OH, I SEE!!
12
THEN, I PROMISE I'LL TREAT YOU TO SOME TRULY DELICIOUS MACKEREL!
JUST WAIT A MONTH!
THAT MACKEREL WAS DEFINITELY NOT TASTY AT ALL!
I TRIED IT AT THE RESTAURANT NEXT TO THE FISH MARKET,

–FROM *DELICIOUS ADVENTURES*, VOL. 14



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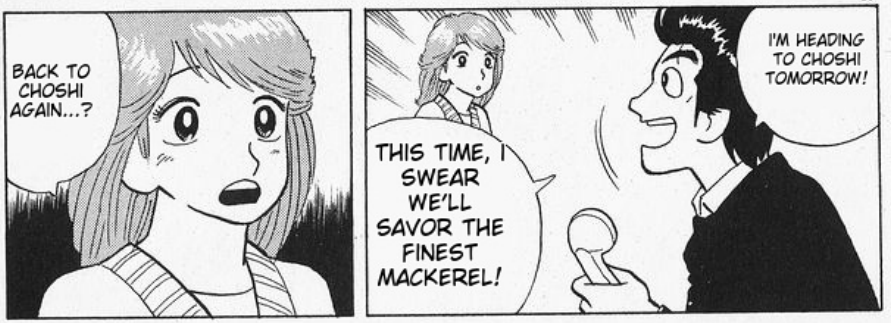

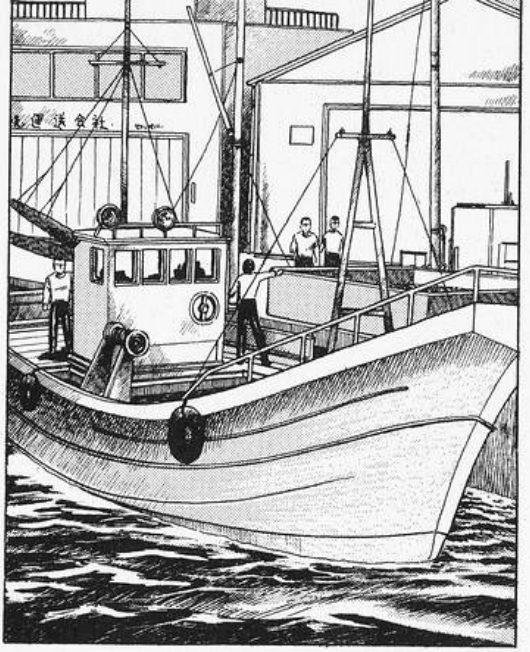

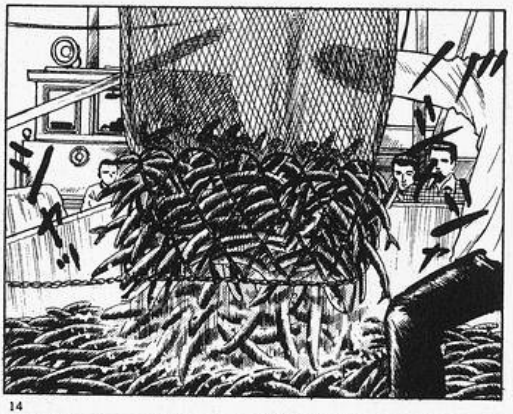

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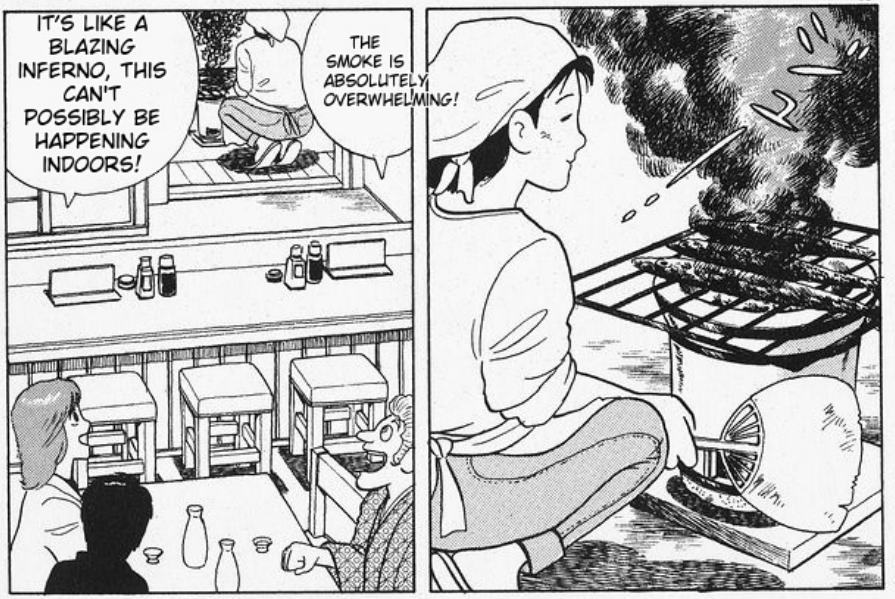
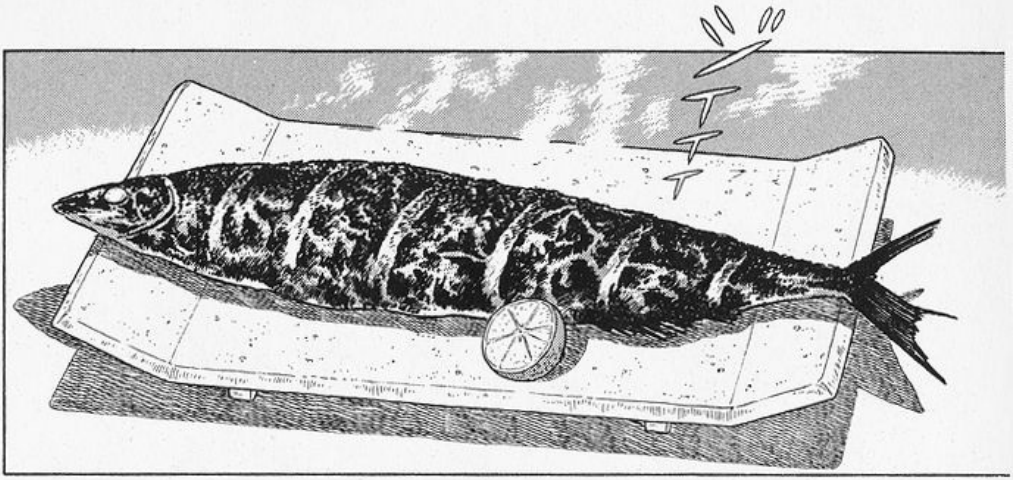
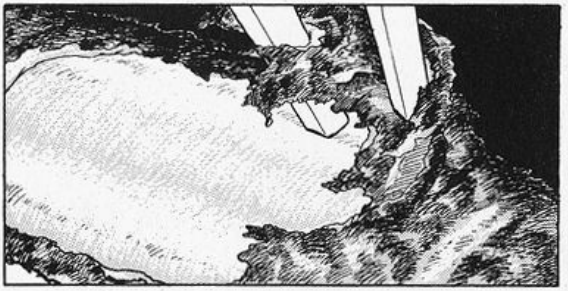
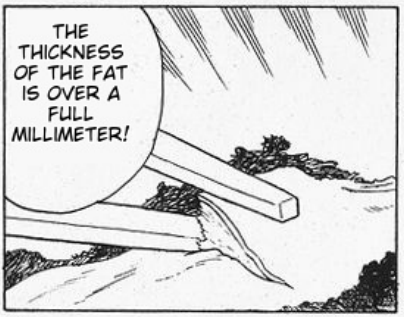






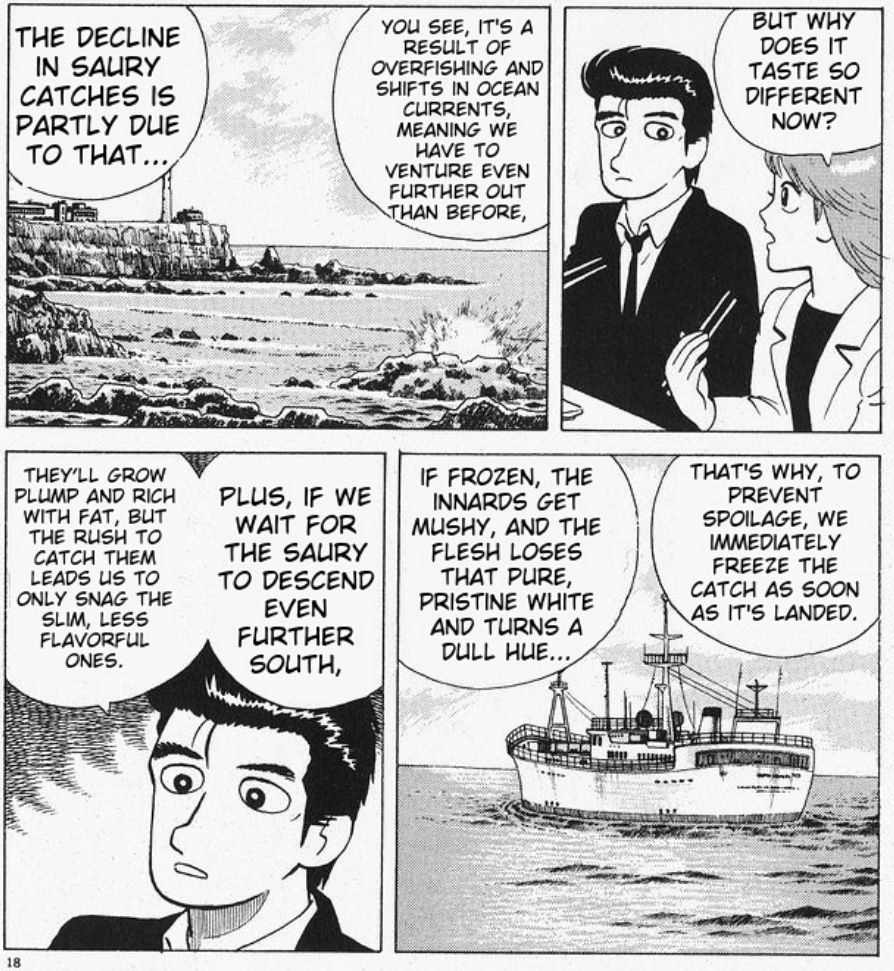
WELL, WELL...


THE THICKNESS OF THE FAT IS OVER A FULL MILLIMETER!

OH WOW! BENEATH THAT SKIN LIES A THICK LAYER OF PURE WHITE FAT!

IT'S PACKED TIGHT IN THAT VERY SHAPE!
AND THE ORGANS

–FROM *DELICIOUS ADVENTURES*, VOL. 14


THE DECLINE IN SAURY CATCHES IS PARTLY DUE TO THAT...
YOU SEE, IT'S A RESULT OF OVERFISHING AND SHIFTS IN OCEAN CURRENTS, MEANING WE HAVE TO VENTURE EVEN FURTHER OUT THAN BEFORE,
BUT WHY DOES IT TASTE SO DIFFERENT NOW?
THEY'LL GROW PLUMP AND RICH WITH FAT, BUT THE RUSH TO CATCH THEM LEADS US TO ONLY SNAG THE SLIM, LESS FLAVORFUL ONES.
PLUS, IF WE WAIT FOR THE SAURY TO DESCEND EVEN FURTHER SOUTH,
IF FROZEN, THE INNARDS GET MUSHY, AND THE FLESH LOSES THAT PURE, PRISTINE WHITE AND TURNS A DULL HUE...
THAT'S WHY, TO PREVENT SPOILAGE, WE IMMEDIATELY FREEZE THE CATCH AS SOON AS IT'S LANDED.
18
THE PACIFIC SAURY HAS MADE ITS JOURNEY SOUTHWARD, AND I'VE GONE TO CATCH THEM WHILE THEY'RE RIGHT NEARBY, BRINGING THEM BACK FRESH WITHOUT FREEZING.
WHAT YOU'RE ENJOYING RIGHT NOW IS,

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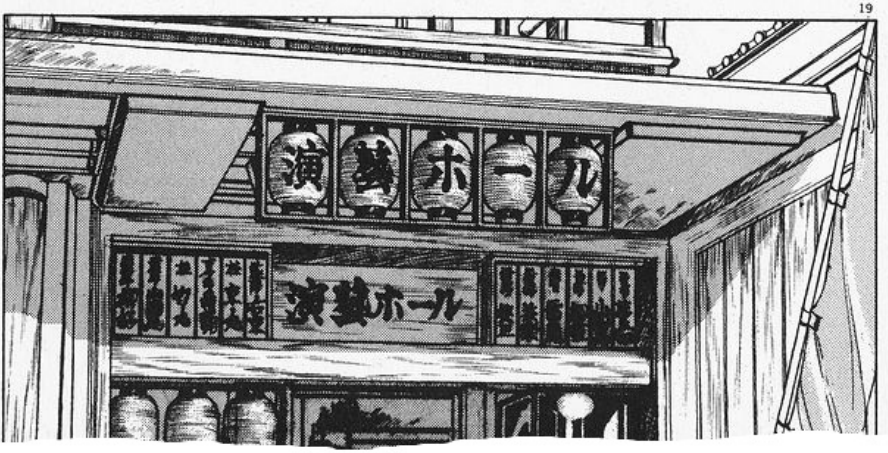
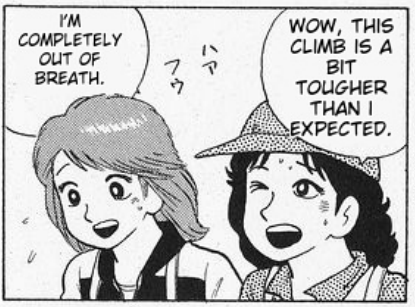


LETTING HOT DROOL DRIBBLE DOWN, OH WHAT A SIGHT...
GOODNESS! THAT NOBLE LORD,
YAMAOKA, YOU REALLY TAUGHT ME SUCH FILTHY TICKLISH PHRASES!
IN THE POETRY OF JAPAN'S GREAT BARD, HARUO SATO, HE WRITES, 'SANMA, SANMA, SANMA DRIPPING WITH THE TANG OF BLUE CITRUS ABOVE,' BUT-
OH MY, THE DELICIOUSNESS OF THOSE SAURY.
THIS SETTLES IT! ON THE WAY BACK, LET'S GRAB SOME SAURY...
BUT IT DOES MAKE ME HUNGRY.
20
I SWEAR, I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANOTHER ONE FOR THE NEXT TEN YEARS!!
I'VE DEVOURED OVER TWO HUNDRED PACIFIC SAURY RECENTLY!
?

第8話
レモンと健康

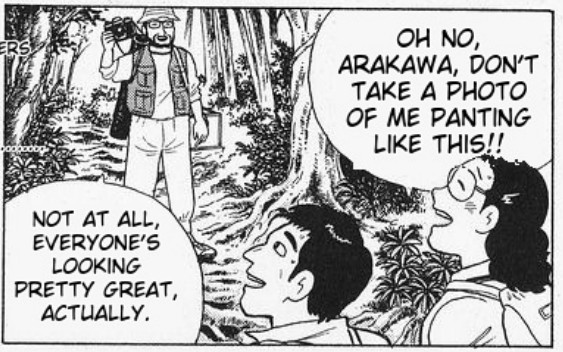
TODAY, I'VE COME HIKING IN TANZAWA.
THE NATURE HERE IS STILL SO LUSH AND BEAUTIFUL– IT'S TRULY A WONDERFUL PLACE.


I'M COMPLETELY OUT OF BREATH.
WOW, THIS CLIMB IS A BIT TOUGHER THAN I EXPECTED.
ハァ
フゥ

WHOA, THREE!
PHEW!...

2

CARRYING THAT HEAVY CAMERA BAG MUST BE EXHAUSTING...
PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE AMAZING, AREN'T THEY...
WOW.....
ハァ
フゥ

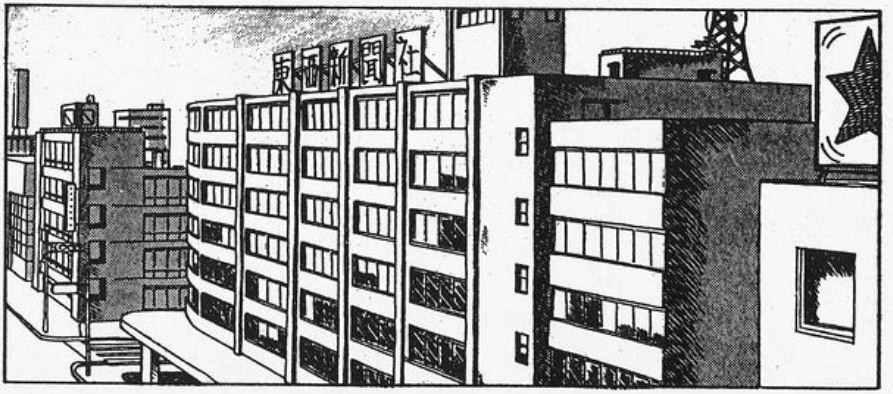

OH NO, ARAKAWA, DON'T TAKE A PHOTO OF ME PANTING LIKE THIS!!
NOT AT ALL, EVERYONE'S LOOKING PRETTY GREAT, ACTUALLY.

 *TL NOTE: APOLOGIES FOR THE INSANE ELLIPSIS IN THE LAST TWO PAGES. THERE'S NO WAY I CAN FIX IT WITHOUT SCREWING UP THE ART.

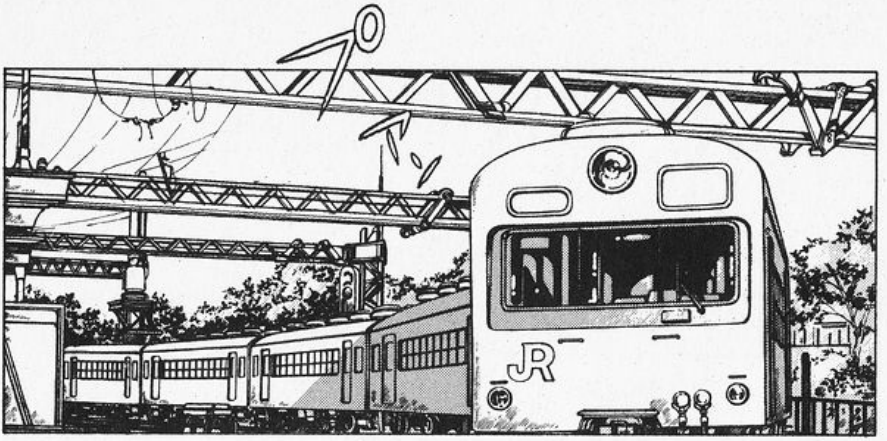
THERE'S NO WAY WE'LL CATCH UP TO ARAKAWA-SAN!
HEY, LET'S HEAD BACK!
•PANT• •PANT• •PANT•
I'M TRYING TO CATCH UP TO ARAKAWA-SAN...
IF YOU WANNA TURN BACK, GO AHEAD!
EEK!
AH!
4
WHOA, WATCH OUT!
LOOK OUT, IT'S DANGEROUS!

SORRY ABOUT THAT...
ハァ ハァ
PANT
HUFF PUFF
ガサガサ
THAT'S BECAUSE WE CAUGHT YOU, MAN!
I ALMOST BIT THE DUST FOR REAL!
BUT THANK GOODNESS NO ONE GOT HURT.
SEE? TANZAWA STILL HAS ITS WILD BEAUTY!
GOT SOME AMAZING SHOTS! A WHOLE FAMILY OF DEER, CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?!
ARE YOU OKAY?!
ARAKAWA-SAN!
5
HUH? WHAT'S WITH YOU GUYS...?
キョトン

UP AHEAD, THERE'S A STUNNING WATERFALL— ABSOLUTELY BREATHTAKING!
ALRIGHT, LET'S GET MOVING!
RUNNING AROUND IN THOSE MOUNTAINS AND STILL LOOKING SO FRESH—HOW DO YOU DO IT?
ARAKAWA, YOU'RE JUST BUILT DIFFERENT, HUH...
SINCE MY JOB IS CAPTURING LIVE CREATURES OUTDOORS, I END UP WORKING OUT EVERY DAY WITHOUT EVEN TRYING, YOU KNOW?
THAT'S JUST HOW ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE, I SUPPOSE.
6
パタ
I'M COMPLETELY WIPED OUT...
ARAKAWA, YOU'RE SERIOUSLY TOUGH...
I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH YOU.

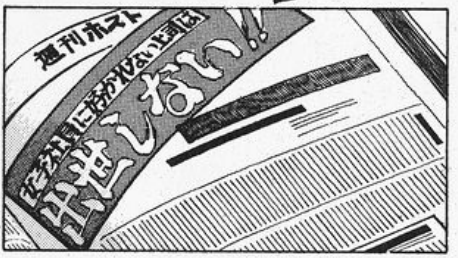


YOU'D JUST END UP BEING DEAD WEIGHT—A RECIPE FOR DISASTER!
EXACTLY! EVEN IF YOU TRIED TO TAG ALONG ON ARAKAWA-SAN'S PHOTO TRIPS TO HELP OUT,
TABATA, AT THIS RATE, YOU'LL NEVER MAKE IT AS A PHOTOGRAPHER'S WIFE, WILL YOU?
YESTERDAY WAS JUST BRUTAL...
LOOK AT YOU TWO, DISHING OUT ADVICE LIKE PROS!
BECAUSE I WANT TO HELP NAOKICHI!
I'LL JOIN YOU TOO. MAKING RICE CRACKERS TAKES STAMINA, YOU KNOW.
I'M COMMITTING TO BUILDING MY STAMINA, STARTING NOW!
BUT YOU'RE RIGHT, WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS...
7
COME ON, LET'S HURRY! LET'S MAP OUT A STAMINA-BUILDING PLAN, PRONTO!
TRYING TO BUILD HIS STAMINA WILL BE POINTLESS, HUH?
CAN'T HELP IT IF YOU'RE DOZING OFF, THOUGH.
スヤ〜。。


JR

' 'IF THEY SNIFF OUT THAT YOU'VE GOT NO FUTURE, THEY'LL GIVE YOU THE COLD SHOULDER.' OH, I SEE NOW...
WOW, LISTEN TO THIS... 'FEMALE EMPLOYEES CAN SEE RIGHT THROUGH THEIR BOSS'S INCOMPETENCE.
ギロ
週刊ホスト

ギロ


週刊ホスト

8

MMM... WHAT IN THE WORLD...
YOU'RE A COMPLETE FAILURE AS A BOSS-NO CHANCE OF CLIMBING THE CORPORATE LADDER!
週刊ホスト

IF YOU ASK A FEMALE COLLEAGUE TO LUNCH AND GET TURNED DOWN, IT'S PROOF SHE CAN'T STAND YOU!
HERE'S HOW TO DETERMINE IF FEMALE EMPLOYEES ACTUALLY LIKE YOU..." HMM, INTERESTING...

LADIES, CARE TO JOIN ME FOR LUNCH FOR ONCE?
HOW ABOUT I TREAT YOU TO SOME HEAVENLY TEMPURA BOWLS AT TENRAIKEN...
EXCUSE ME, VICE PRESIDENT, WE'VE GOT A LITTLE SOMETHING TO TAKE CARE OF.
MY APOLOGIES.
I DIDN'T ASK YOU, SO GET LOST!!!!
YIKES!
ポン
TOMII-SAN!!! YOU'RE REALLY TREATING US TO TEMPURA BOWLS?

PERHAPS SOME FRENCH CUISINE...
LADIES, HOW ABOUT JOINING ME FOR LUNCH TODAY...
THE FOLLOWING DAY–
Y-YOU GUYS...
NEXT TIME, THEN.
OH, I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, BUT WE'RE A BIT...
ENOUGH ALREADY! GO TO THE ZOO AND MUNCH ON SOME HIPPO AND POTATOES OR SOMETHING!
HEY, TOMII, FRENCH CUISINE IS SUCH A TREAT, ISN'T IT?!
10
WE APOLOGIZE, BUT WE REALLY CAN'T...
IT'S VERY TEMPTING, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, BUT...
AND THE DAY AFTER THAT –
週刊ポスト
ない!!
ヤバイ
ヤバイ

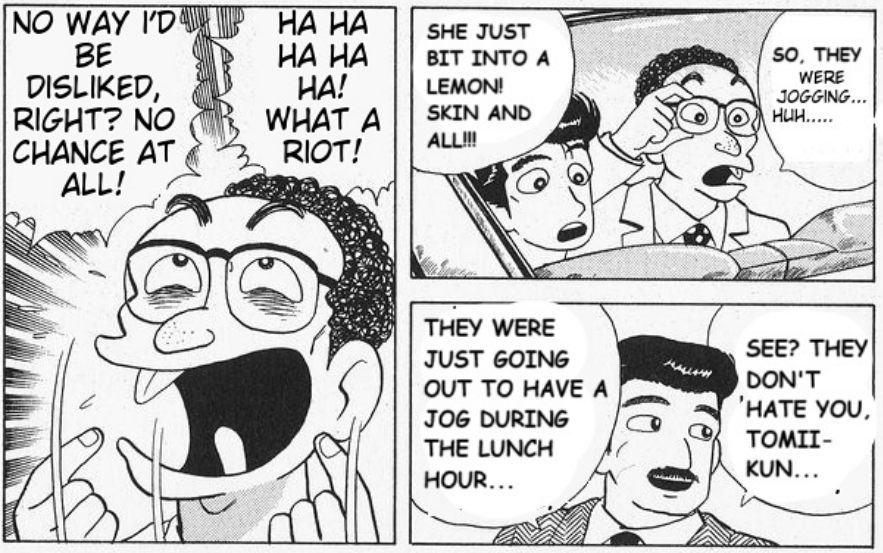
……
I AM…
I'M UNFIT FOR THIS LEADERSHIP ROLE.
ガックリ
YO, YOU TWO, LET'S GRAB SOME LUNCH!
WHAT'S UP, TOMI!?
YOU'VE BEEN DOWN LATELY, HUH?
WAIT, WHAT?!
11
BEING DISLIKED AND DISMISSED BY THEM IS PROOF I'M INCOMPETENT AS A MANAGER.
EVEN IF A GUY THINKS IT, HE DOESN'T SHOW IT, BUT THE FEMALE STAFF ARE STRAIGHT-UP ABOUT IT.
TOTALLY DESPISE YOU.
IDIOT
USELESS
I'M JUST A HOPELESS, INCOMPETENT GUY WITH NO FUTURE…
LATELY, THE FEMALE STAFF WON'T HAVE LUNCH WITH ME…
THEY'VE FINALLY GIVEN UP ON ME.
ヒュ…

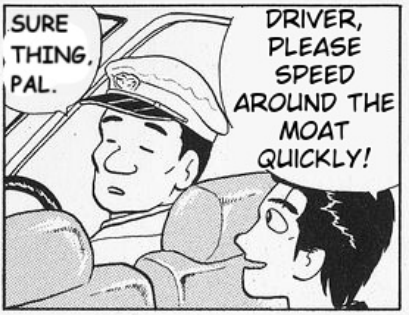
HEY, YAMAOKA!
ONCE THIS GUY'S WRITTEN OFF, EVEN SHARING A MEAL WITH HIM BECOMES UNBEARABLE, HUH?
HMM... A WOMAN'S INTUITION IS SHARP, AFTER ALL....
THE YOUNG GUYS FROM MY FAVORITE SHOP HAVE GONE INDEPENDENT AND OPENED THEIR OWN PLACE.
SINCE WE'RE ALREADY RUNNING LATE, WHY NOT GO A BIT FARTHER AND GRAB SOME SUSHI.
東西新聞
12
KURITA-KUN AND TABATA-KUN PROBABLY HAVE OTHER REASONS FOR NOT JOINING YOU FOR LUNCH...

BUT ME...!!
WELL, IT'S NO WONDER THE LAZY YAMAOKA GETS DISLIKED.
SEE, I TOLD YOU!
COME TO THINK OF IT, I HAVEN'T HAD LUNCH WITH THOSE THREE IN AGES EITHER.
GUYS, PUT YOUR HEADS DOWN!!!
TCH... HOW RUDE!

BITING INTO A LEMON CAN REALLY REFRESH YOU!
SEE?
COME ON, JUST ONE MORE PUSH!
BUT IT'S REFRESHING AND GIVES YOU ENERGY!
WHOA, THAT'S SOUR!

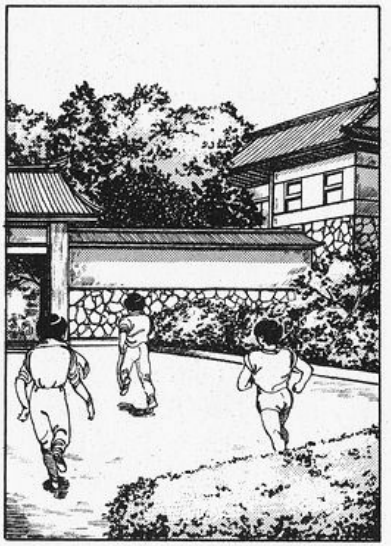
14


NO WAY I'D BE DISLIKED, RIGHT? NO CHANCE AT ALL!
HA HA HA HA HA! WHAT A RIOT!
SHE JUST BIT INTO A LEMON! SKIN AND ALL!!!
SO, THEY WERE JOGGING... HUH.....
THEY WERE JUST GOING OUT TO HAVE A JOG DURING THE LUNCH HOUR...
SEE? THEY DON'T 'HATE YOU, TOMII-KUN...


SURE THING, PAL.
DRIVER, PLEASE SPEED AROUND THE MOAT QUICKLY!

HUH?
LET'S GIVE THOSE THREE A PUNISHMENT FOR TORMENTING YOU.

DON'T GIVE UP NOW... YOU CAN'T FALL BEHIND TABATA-SAN!
THIS IS SO TOUGH...
ハア ハア



BITE INTO A LEMON AND PERK YOURSELF UP.
ハア ハア

15

OH MY...
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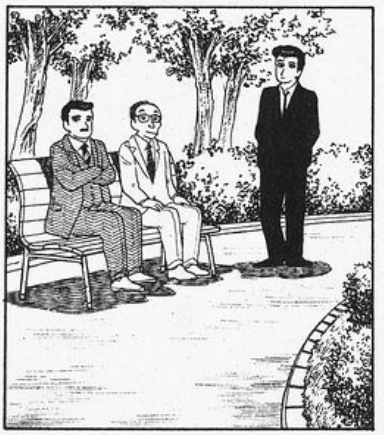
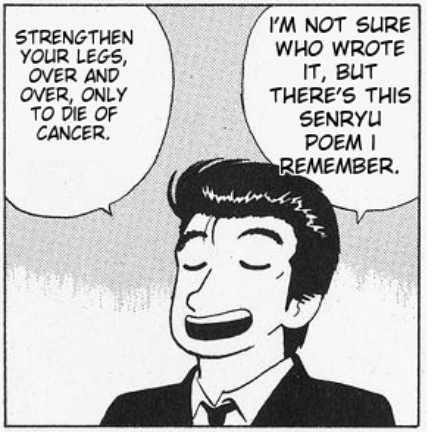
OH, LOOK OVER THERE!



I HAD NO IDEA YOU WERE JOGGING AROUND THE IMPERIAL PALACE.
WOW, YOU'RE REALLY PUTTING IN THE EFFORT, HUH?!


STRENGTHEN YOUR LEGS, OVER AND OVER, ONLY TO DIE OF CANCER.
I'M NOT SURE WHO WROTE IT, BUT THERE'S THIS SENRYU POEM I REMEMBER.

I THOUGHT I'D STRENGTHEN MY LEGS AND CORE...
IT'S ALL FOR THE SAKE OF BUILDING UP OUR STAMINA.

CARE TO JOIN US, EVERYONE?

DO YOU REALLY THINK RUNNING IN PLACES WITH SUCH POLLUTED AIR, FILLED WITH CAR EXHAUST, IS GOOD FOR YOUR HEALTH?
BUT THINK ABOUT IT, YOU TWO.

UH... WHAT?!

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?! HOW RUDE!! WE'RE WORKING SO HARD TO BUILD UP OUR STAMINA!
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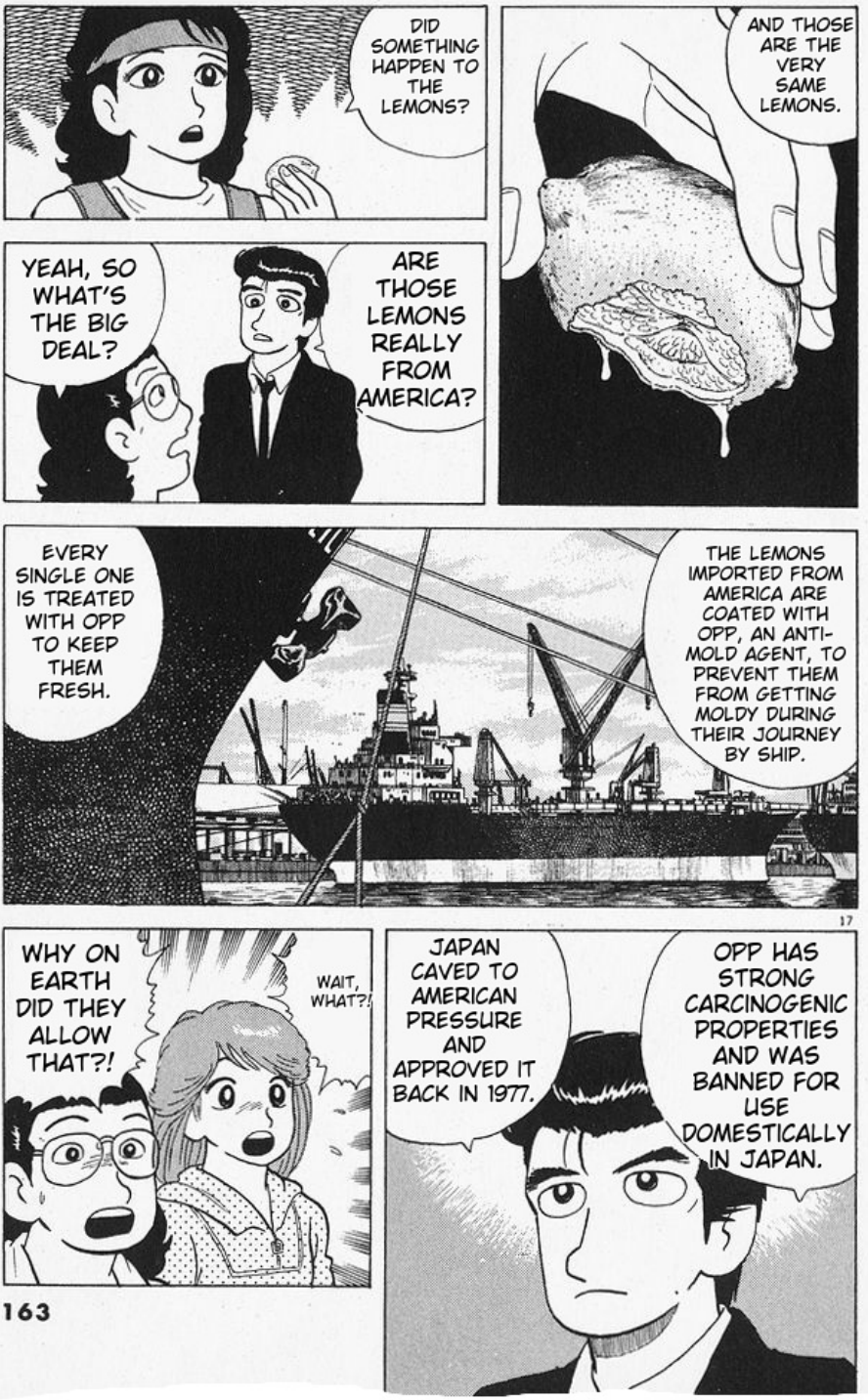
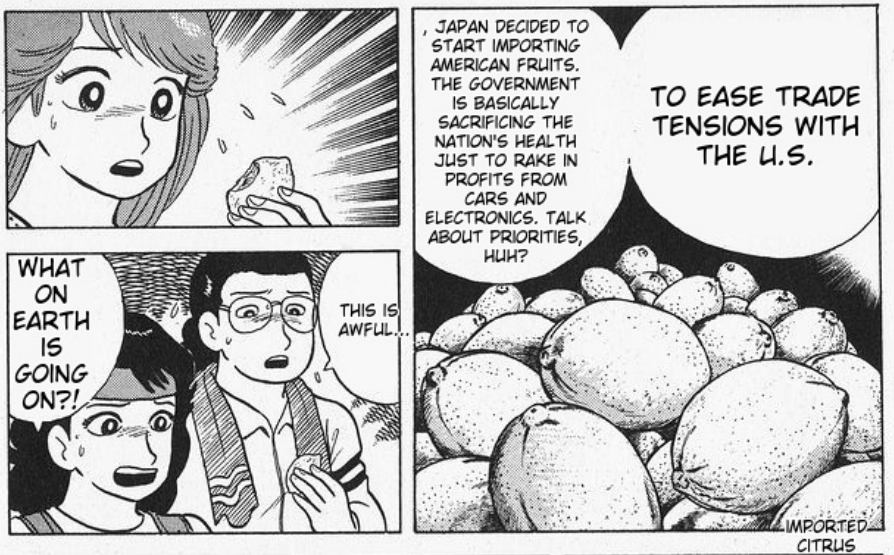
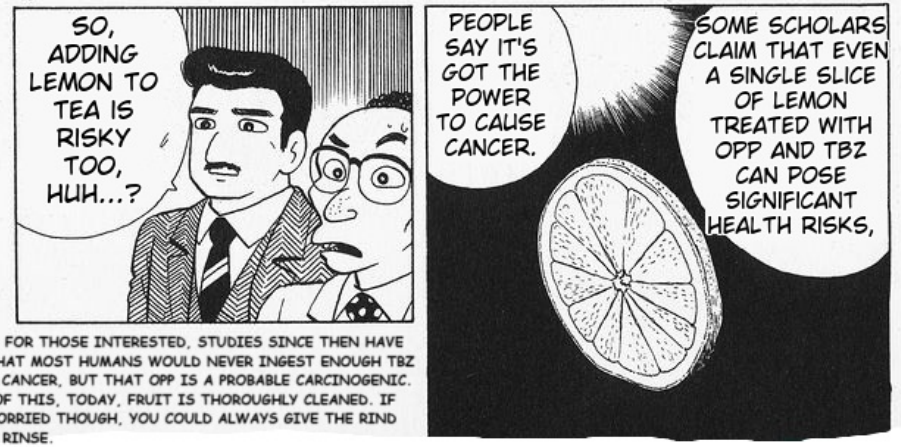
WHY WOULD YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT?!


DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO THE LEMONS?
AND THOSE ARE THE VERY SAME LEMONS.
YEAH, SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
ARE THOSE LEMONS REALLY FROM AMERICA?
EVERY SINGLE ONE IS TREATED WITH OPP TO KEEP THEM FRESH.
THE LEMONS IMPORTED FROM AMERICA ARE COATED WITH OPP, AN ANTI-MOLD AGENT, TO PREVENT THEM FROM GETTING MOLDY DURING THEIR JOURNEY BY SHIP.
17
WHY ON EARTH DID THEY ALLOW THAT?!
WAIT, WHAT?!
JAPAN CAVED TO AMERICAN PRESSURE AND APPROVED IT BACK IN 1977.
OPP HAS STRONG CARCINOGENIC PROPERTIES AND WAS BANNED FOR USE DOMESTICALLY IN JAPAN.





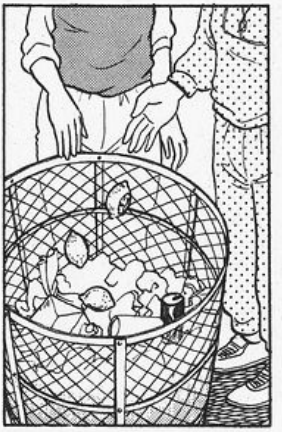
*TL NOTE: FOR THOSE INTERESTED, STUDIES SINCE THEN HAVE SHOWN THAT MOST HUMANS WOULD NEVER INGEST ENOUGH TBZ TO CAUSE CANCER, BUT THAT OPP IS A PROBABLE CARCINOGENIC. BECAUSE OF THIS, TODAY, FRUIT IS THOROUGHLY CLEANED. IF YOU'RE WORRIED THOUGH, YOU COULD ALWAYS GIVE THE RIND AN EXTRA RINSE.

LATELY, MORE PEOPLE ARE BUYING DOMESTIC LEMONS AND ORANGES.
PEOPLE WHO CARE ABOUT SAFETY STOPPED EATING IMPORTED LEMONS, ORANGES, AND GRAPEFRUITS AGES AGO.

SERIOUSLY, IT'S LIKE THEY'RE SAYING, 'WORK YOUR LEGS AND CORE, THEN DIE OF CANCER...'

WHAT WERE WE EVEN DOING?
SIGH...

LEMONS DRENCHED IN EXHAUST FUMES AND CARCINOGENS...



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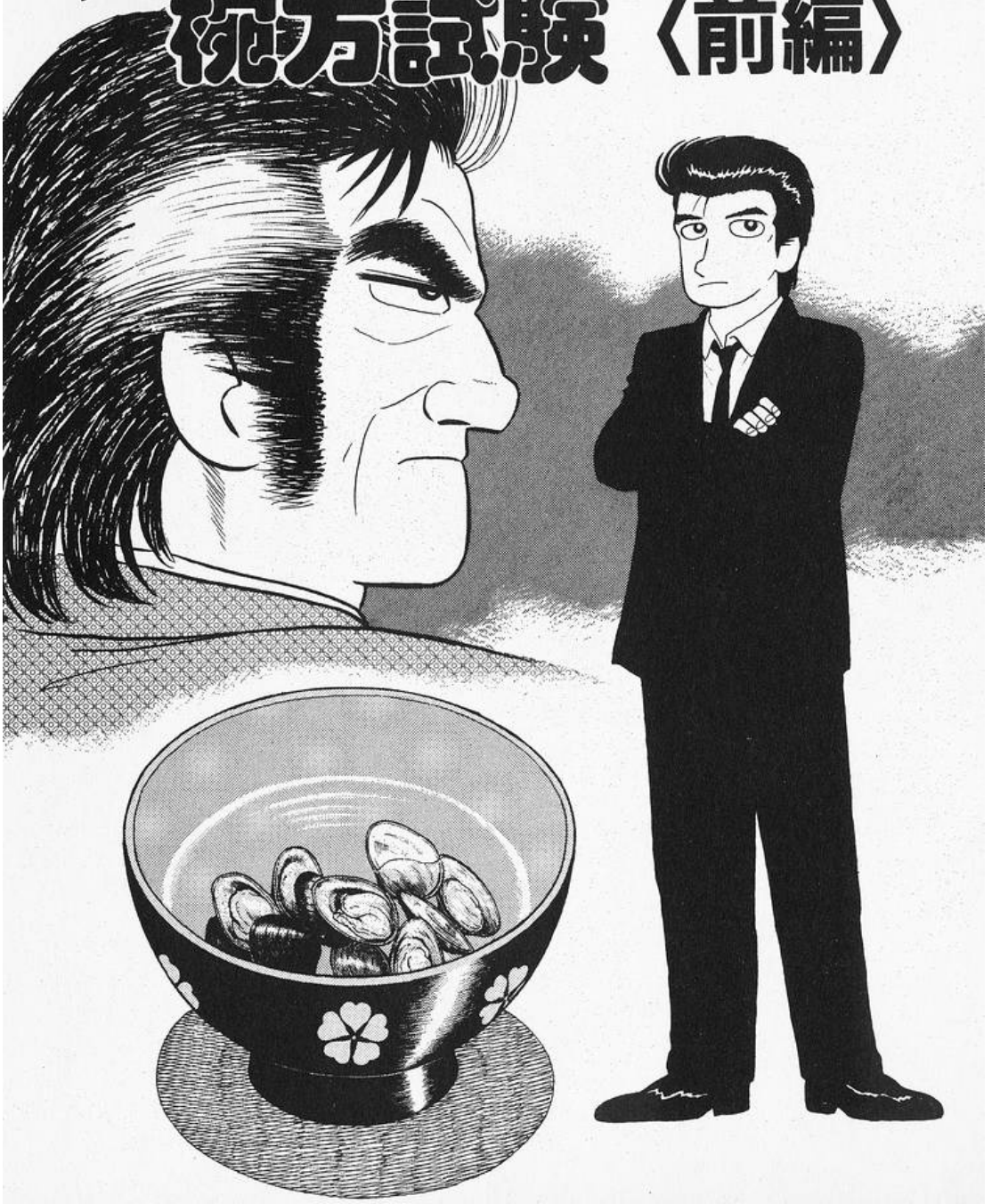
19

ANYONE WHO TURNS DOWN A MEAL INVITE FROM THEIR BOSS DESERVES TO GET CANCER!
SEE?! THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU REJECT MY LUNCH INVITATIONS!

*TL NOTE: JUST A FUN FACT, BUT THIS EPISODE OF THE ANIME HAS NOT BEEN RE-AIRED SINCE ITS ORIGINAL RUN, LIKELY BECAUSE SINCE THEN HANDLING OF IMPORTED FRUIT HAS CHANGED.

第9話

椀方試験〈前編〉



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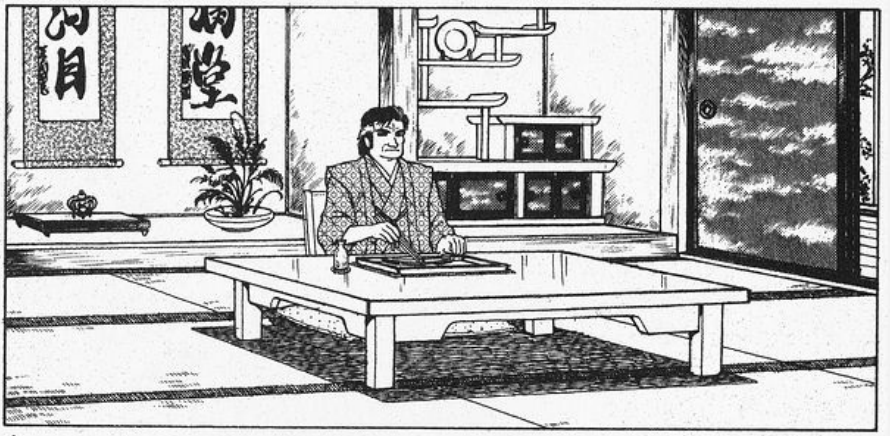

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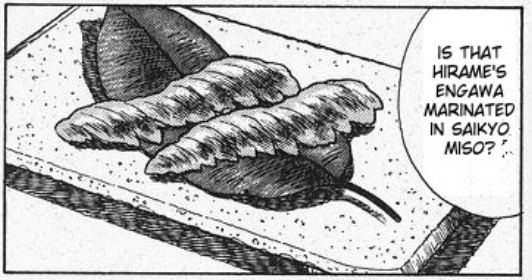
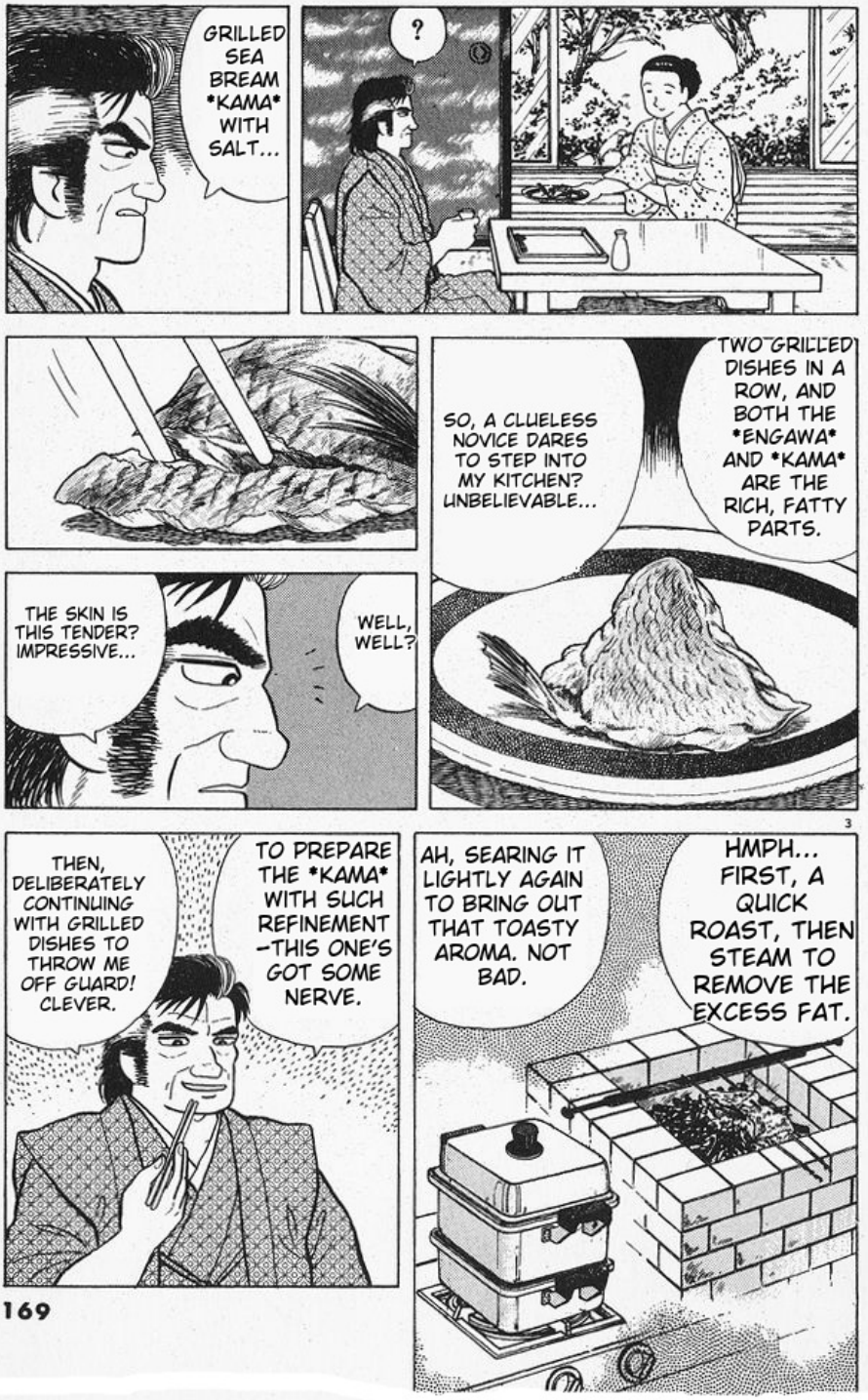
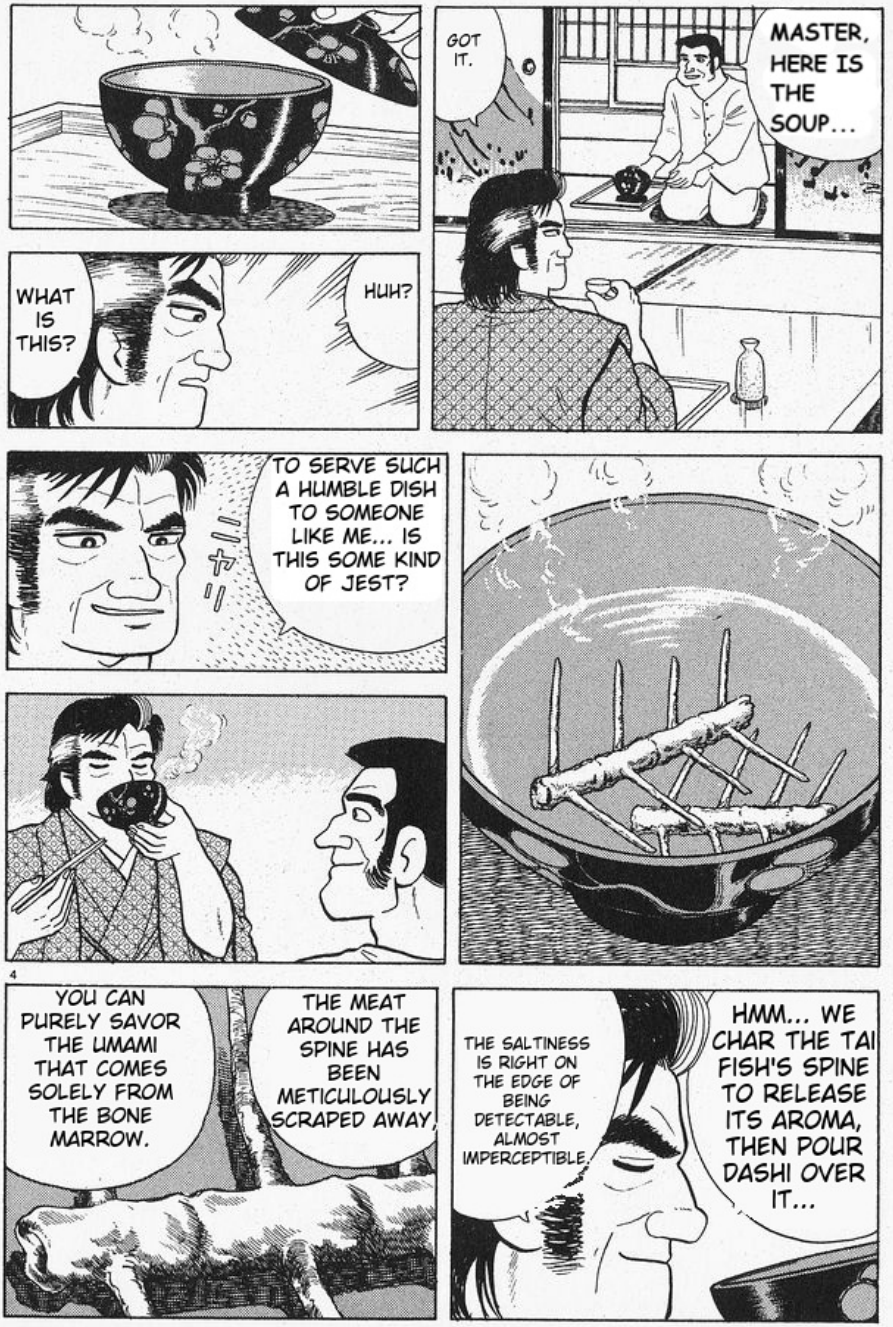

IS THAT HIRAME'S ENGAWA MARINATED IN SAIKYO MISO?!

THE GRILL MARKS ARE ABSOLUTELY FLAWLESS...
THE BALANCE OF THE SAIKYO MISO FLAVOR IS SPOT ON.


GRILLED SEA BREAM *KAMA* WITH SALT...
?
SO, A CLUELESS NOVICE DARES TO STEP INTO MY KITCHEN? UNBELIEVABLE...
TWO GRILLED DISHES IN A ROW, AND BOTH THE *ENGAWA* AND *KAMA* ARE THE RICH, FATTY PARTS.
THE SKIN IS THIS TENDER? IMPRESSIVE...
WELL, WELL?
3
THEN, DELIBERATELY CONTINUING WITH GRILLED DISHES TO THROW ME OFF GUARD! CLEVER.
TO PREPARE THE *KAMA* WITH SUCH REFINEMENT —THIS ONE'S GOT SOME NERVE.
AH, SEARING IT LIGHTLY AGAIN TO BRING OUT THAT TOASTY AROMA. NOT BAD.
HMPH... FIRST, A QUICK ROAST, THEN STEAM TO REMOVE THE EXCESS FAT.


MASTER, HERE IS THE SOUP...
GOT IT.
HUH?
WHAT IS THIS?
TO SERVE SUCH A HUMBLE DISH TO SOMEONE LIKE ME... IS THIS SOME KIND OF JEST?
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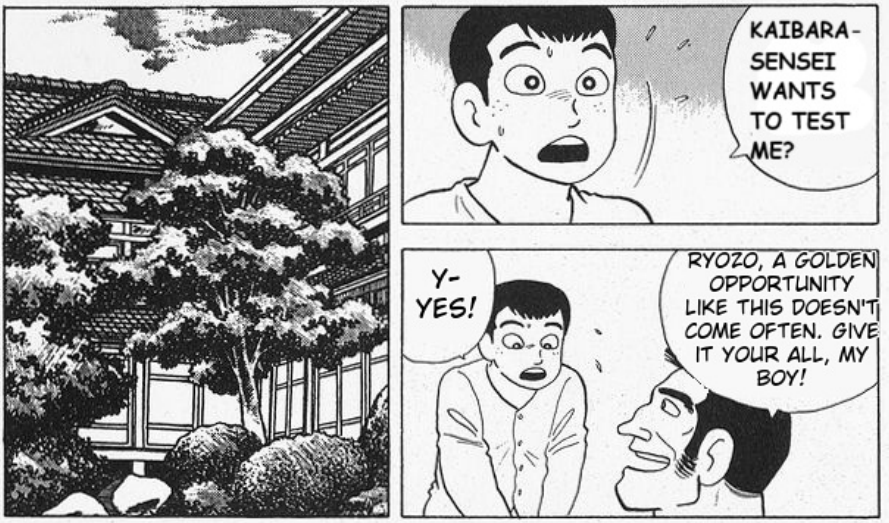
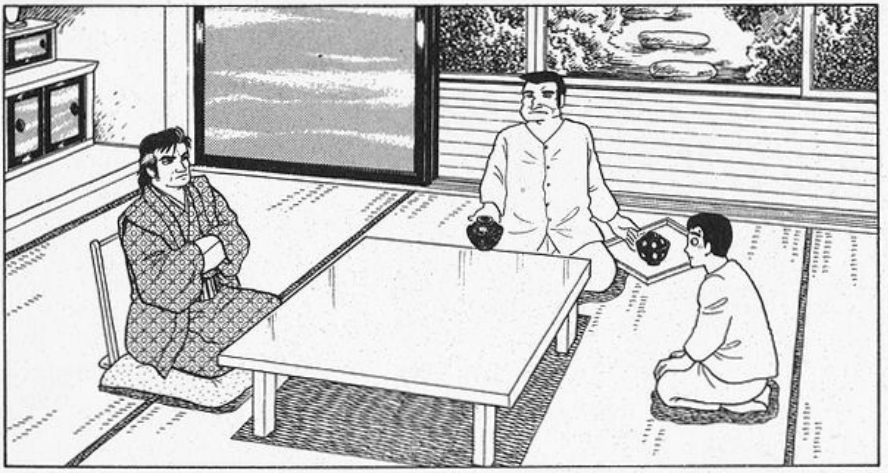
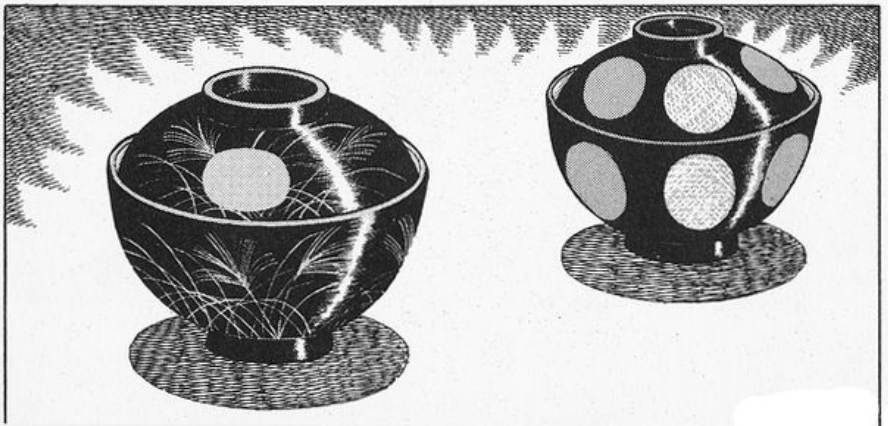
4
HMM... WE CHAR THE TAI FISH'S SPINE TO RELEASE ITS AROMA, THEN POUR DASHI OVER IT...
THE SALTINESS IS RIGHT ON THE EDGE OF BEING DETECTABLE, ALMOST IMPERCEPTIBLE.
THE MEAT AROUND THE SPINE HAS BEEN METICULOUSLY SCRAPED AWAY.
YOU CAN PURELY SAVOR THE UMAMI THAT COMES SOLELY FROM THE BONE MARROW.

SO, RYOZO PREPARED TODAY'S LUNCH, DID HE?
I'VE GOT IT!
YES, IT WAS RYOZO'S DOING.
TO CREATE SUCH A FEAST USING ONLY SCRAPS... INCREDIBLE.
FLOUNDER FIN, SEA BREAM COLLAR, AND THE BACKBONE OF THE BREAM-AREN'T THESE ALL JUST FISH SCRAPS?
BUT HE'S BARELY TWENTY YEARS OLD!
PUT RYOZO IN CHARGE OF THE SOUP STATION?!
IN THE KITCHEN, AGE AND EXPERIENCE MEAN NOTHING. THOSE WHO CAN'T DISCERN FLAVOR WILL NEVER AMOUNT TO ANYTHING, NO MATTER HOW LONG THEY TRAIN.
HMM... THAT RYOZO, SUCH A CHEEKY FELLOW...
NAKAGAWA... I'M THINKING OF PLACING RYOZO IN CHARGE OF THE SOUP STATION. WHAT DO YOU THINK?
5
RYOZO WILL BE OVER THE MOON WITH JOY!
HE'S WORTH TAKING A BOLD LEAP AND PROMOTING.
RYOZO SEEMS TO HAVE A NATURAL GIFT FOR UNDERSTANDING FLAVOR.

THE ESSENCE OF JAPANESE CUISINE LIES IN THE *WAN*—THE SOUP.
CONSIDER IT AN HONOR.
WAIT, WHAT?! YOU MEAN *I* HAVE TO TAKE ON THE ROLE OF THE WAN-KATA?!
A *WAN* WITH SHRIMP DUMPLINGS...
A *WAN* WITH SEA BREAM SOMEN AND SHIITAKE MUSHROOMS,
OR PERHAPS A *WAN* WITH PIKE CONGER AND MATSUTAKE MUSHROOMS—
SUCH A HEAVY BURDEN ON *ME*...!!
6
BEFORE THAT, THE SENSEI HIMSELF HAS DECLARED HE WILL CONDUCT THE TEST ONCE MORE.
BUT HOLD IT!!
THE WAN-KATA BEARS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THAT *WAN*. IT'S AN HONOR, YES, BUT THE WEIGHT OF IT IS IMMENSE!
IT'S WHERE A CHEF'S SENSUALITY, AESTHETIC SENSE, AND SKILL ALL COME TOGETHER— THE MOST CRUCIAL PART.


KAIBARA-SENSEI WANTS TO TEST ME?
Y-YES!
RYOZO, A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY LIKE THIS DOESN'T COME OFTEN. GIVE IT YOUR ALL, MY BOY!





UNDERSTOOD.
GIVE ME YOUR REASONING.
BETWEEN THESE TWO BOWLS, WHICH ONE DO YOU THINK TASTES BETTER?
GO ON, TAKE A SIP.
THAT'S RIGHT, JUST BROTH.
SO, THERE'S NOTHING INSIDE...
8
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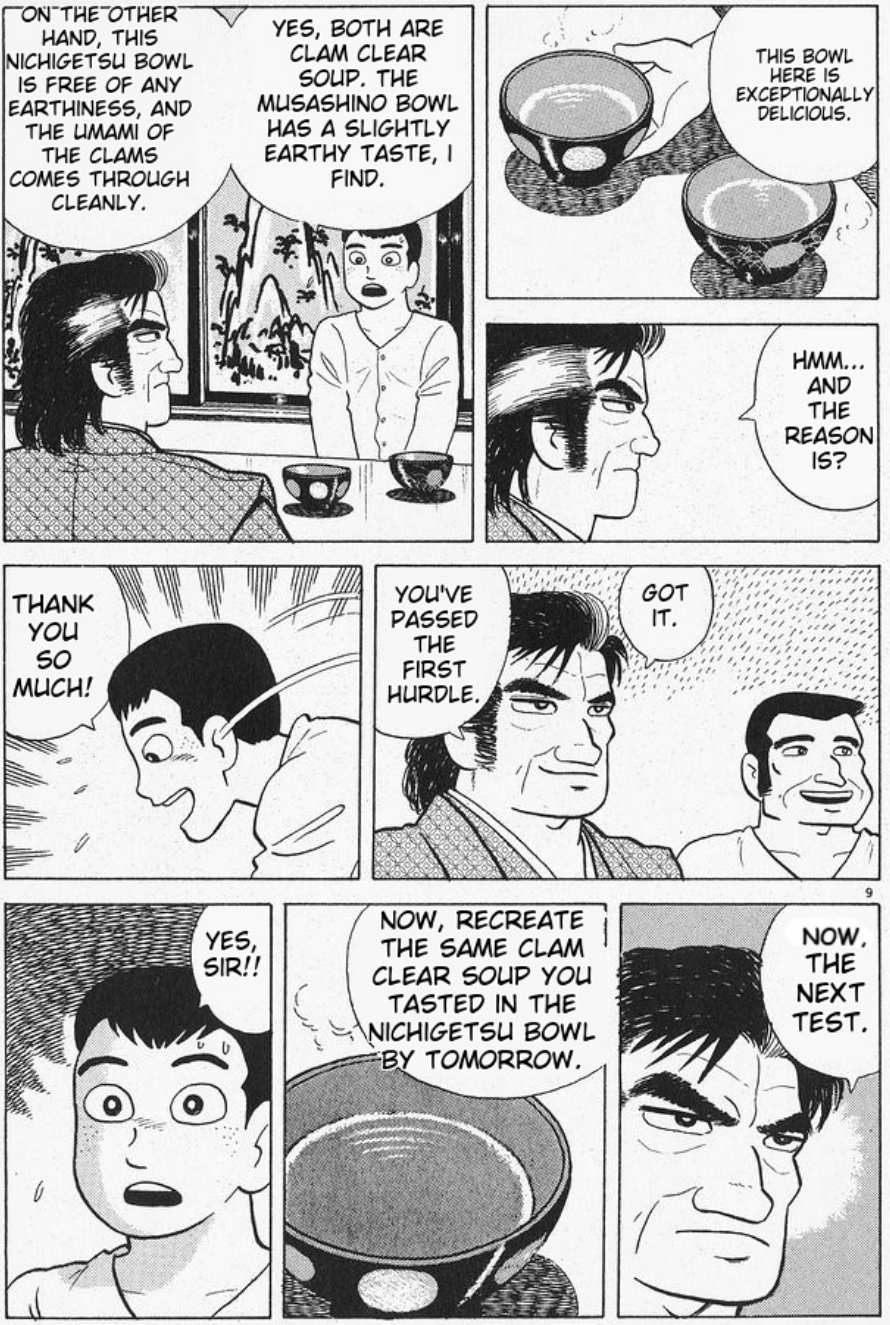
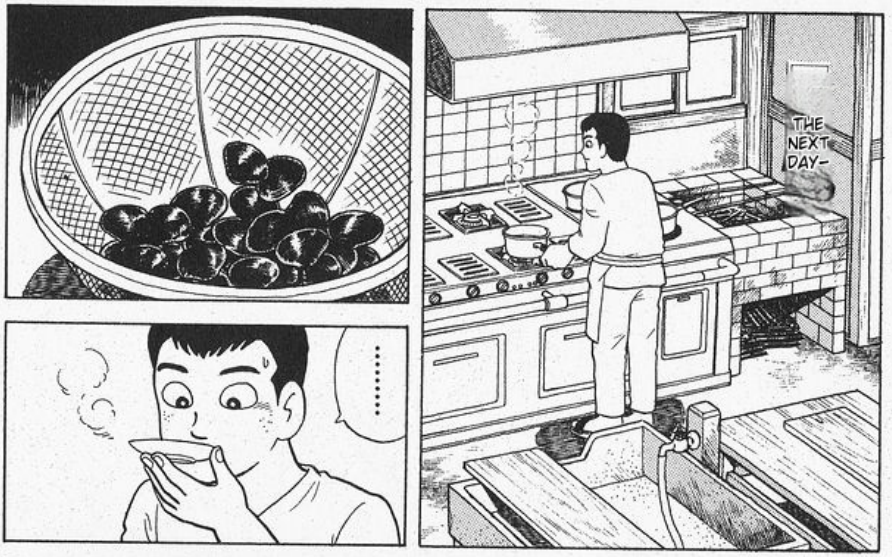

ON THE OTHER HAND, THIS NICHIGETSU BOWL IS FREE OF ANY EARTHINESS, AND THE UMAMI OF THE CLAMS COMES THROUGH CLEANLY.
YES, BOTH ARE CLAM CLEAR SOUP. THE MUSASHINO BOWL HAS A SLIGHTLY EARTHY TASTE, I FIND.
THIS BOWL HERE IS EXCEPTIONALLY DELICIOUS.
HMM... AND THE REASON IS?
THANK YOU SO MUCH!
YOU'VE PASSED THE FIRST HURDLE.
GOT IT.
9
YES, SIR!!
NOW, RECREATE THE SAME CLAM CLEAR SOUP YOU TASTED IN THE NICHIGETSU BOWL BY TOMORROW.
NOW, THE NEXT TEST.


THE NEXT DAY-
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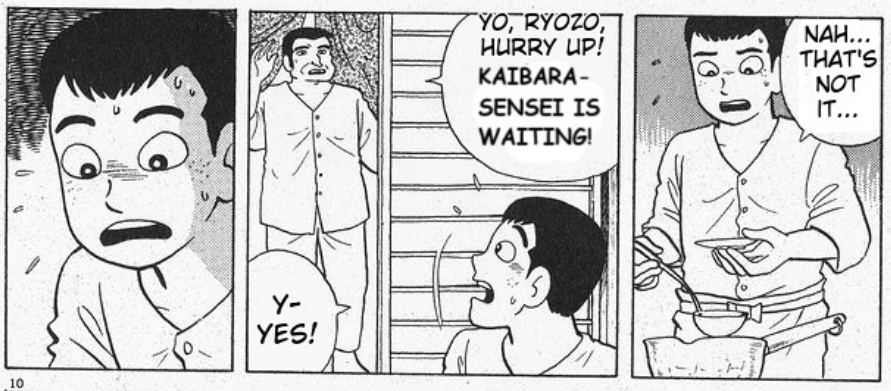
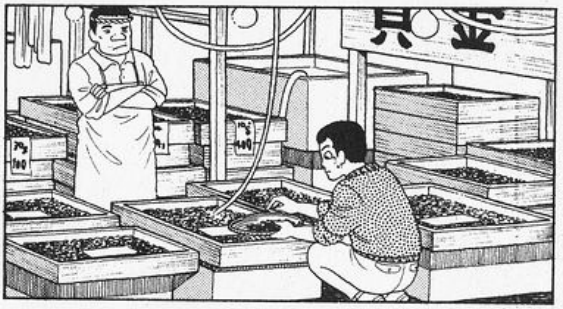

YO, RYOZO, HURRY UP! KAIBARA-SENSEI IS WAITING!
Y-YES!
NAH... THAT'S NOT IT...

ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS SOUP TASTES THE SAME AS YESTERDAY'S?!
RYOZO...
MY DEEPEST APOLOGIES...
THE TRUE ESSENCE OF THE CLAMS IS COMPLETELY MISSING, ISN'T IT?!
EXPLAIN THIS MUDDY, UNREFINED FLAVOR OF YOURS!
...FINE, I'LL WAIT.
YOU'RE ASKING ME TO WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW?!?!
DO IT OVER AGAIN!
Y-YES, SIR!
MASTER! PLEASE, JUST ONE MORE DAY!



THE NEXT MORNING - TSUKIJI FISH MARKET

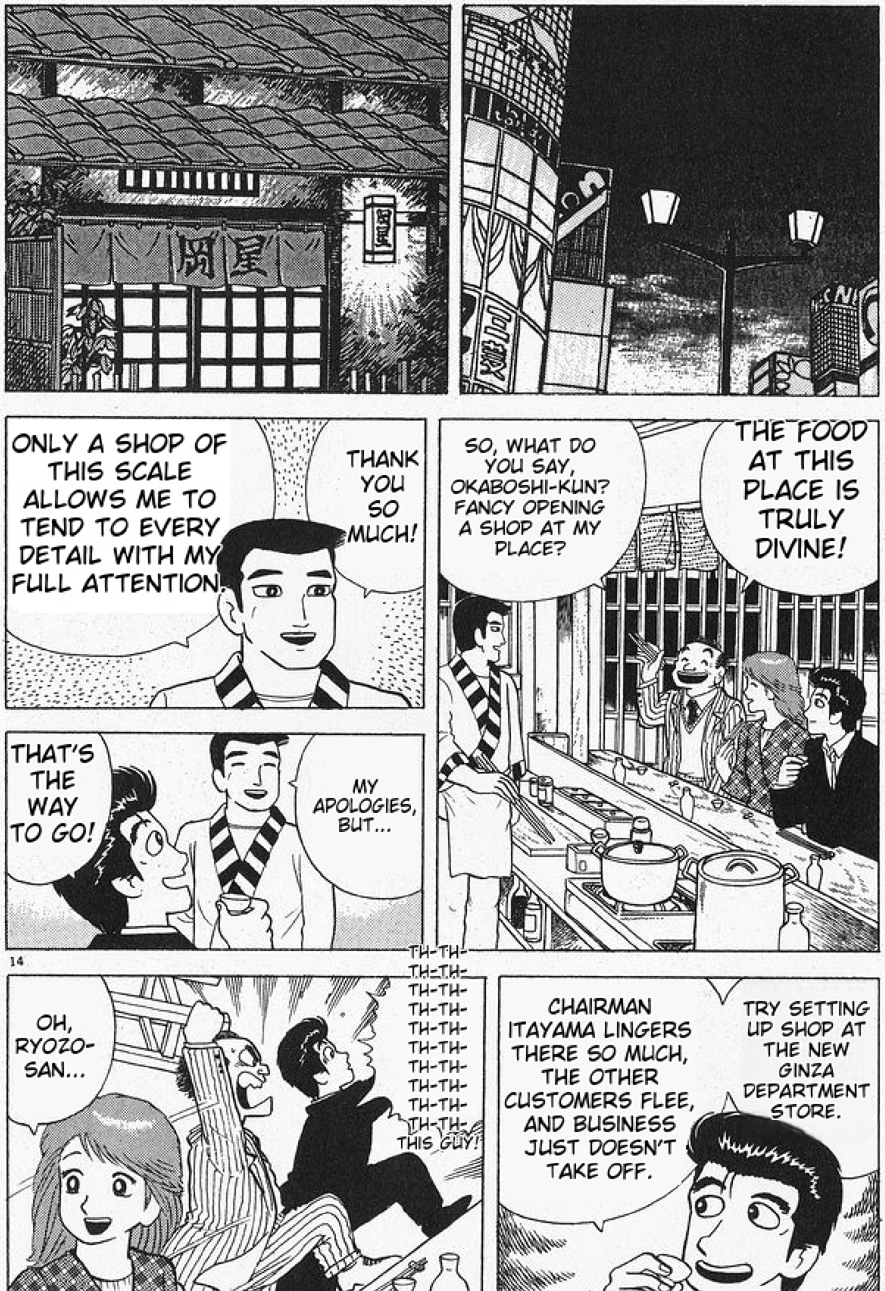
YOU DON'T EVEN NEED TO PICK AND CHOOSE!
HEY, HEY! EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THESE CLAMS IS TOP-NOTCH, STRAIGHT FROM LAKE KASUMIGAURA, YOU KNOW?!

I'M BEGGING YOU...
JUST LET ME DO THIS MY WAY, ALRIGHT?

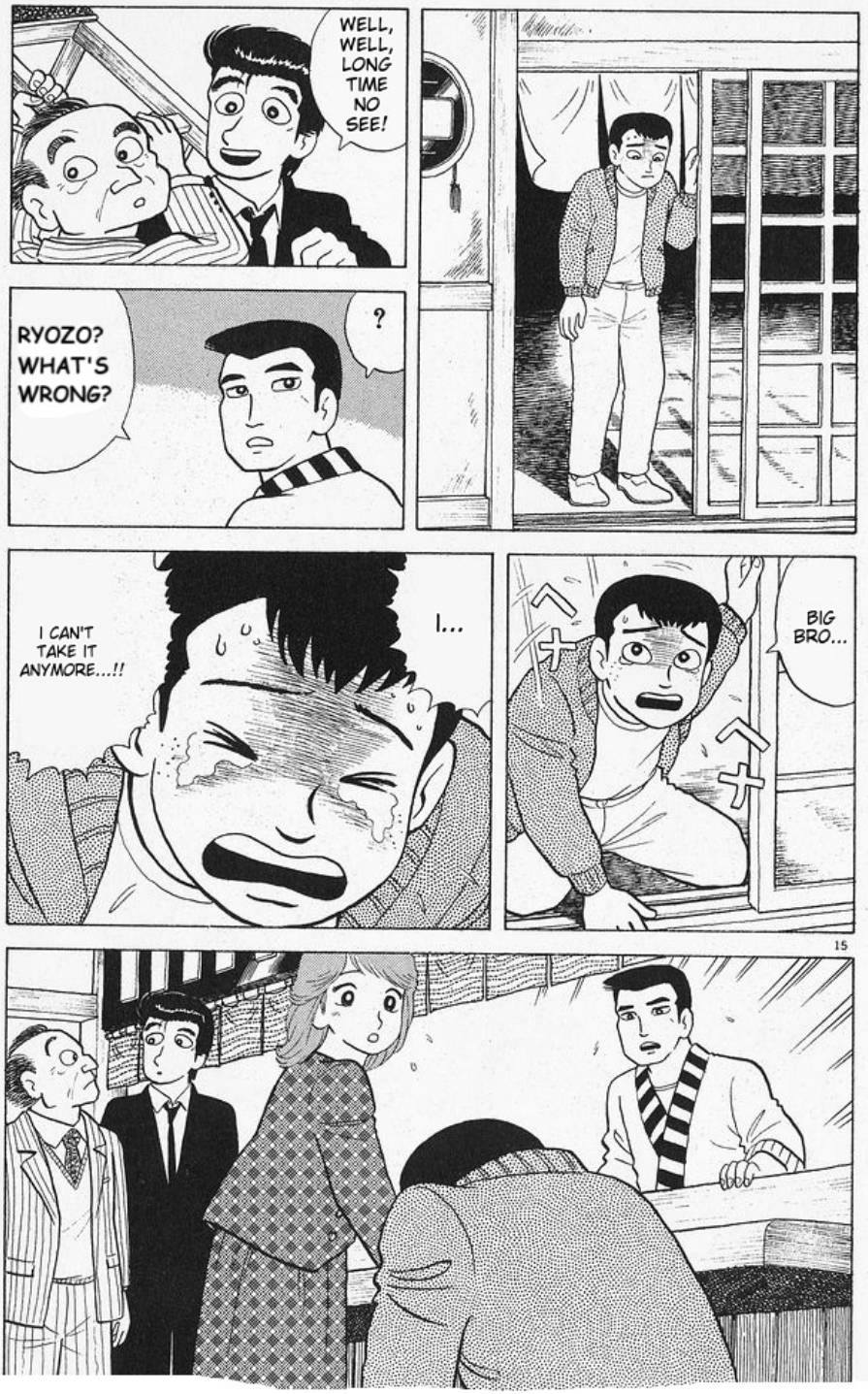
ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS TASTES JUST LIKE THAT CLEAR SOUP FROM YESTERDAY?!
RYOZO!!

.....!
YOU UTTER IMBECILE!!
IF YOU'VE GOT A PROBLEM WITH THAT, THEN GET OUT!!
FROM NOW ON, YOU'RE BANNED FROM THE KITCHEN FOR GOOD!! ALL YOU'RE ALLOWED TO DO IS CLEAN AND WASH DISHES!!
I'M FURIOUS WITH MYSELF FOR EVER BELIEVING IN A FOOL LIKE YOU!!
UGH, I'M SEETHING WITH RAGE!!

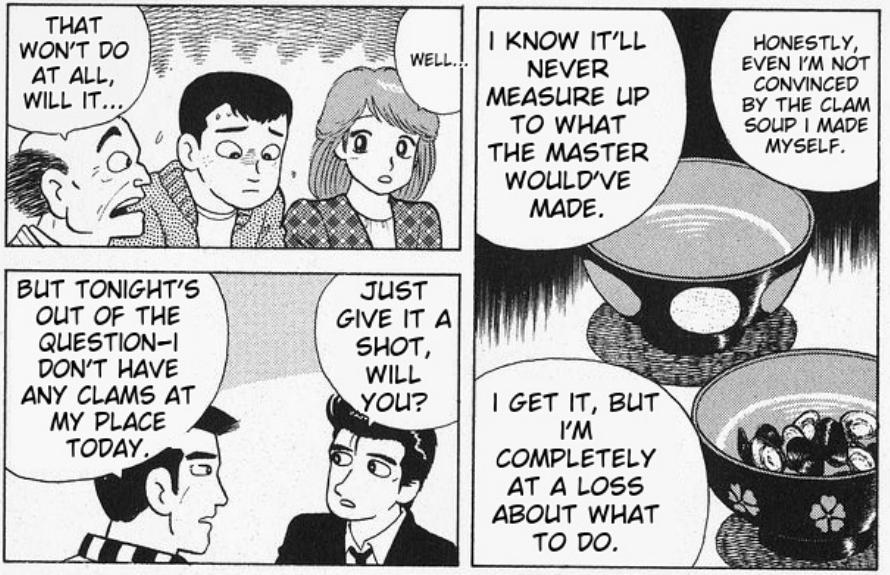
B-BUT, MASTER...

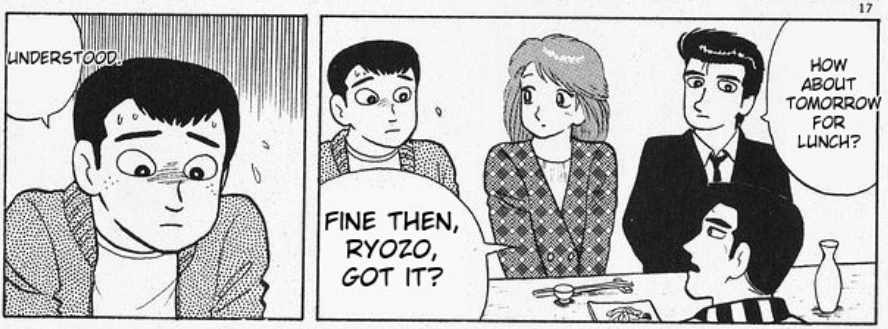


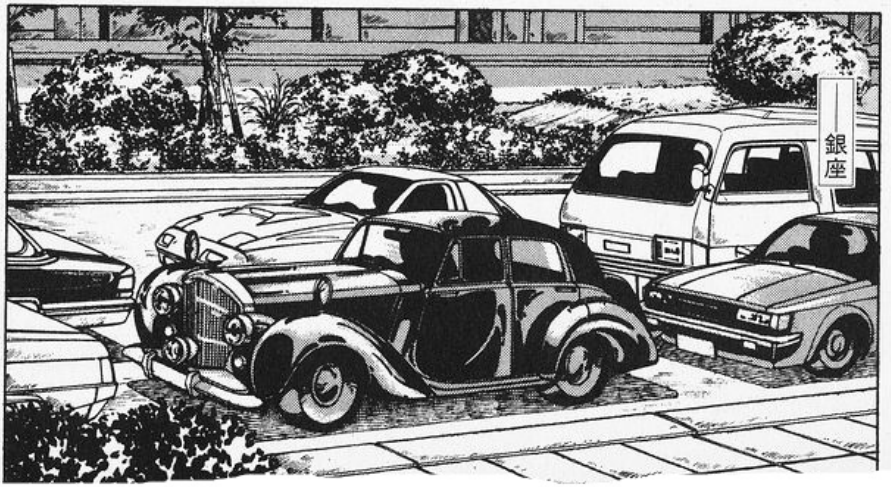
*TL NOTE: THE MACHINE WENT A BIT HAYWIRE THERE, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO FIX IT WITHOUT SCREWING UP THE PANEL, SO, I'M LEAVING IT IN...


WELL, WELL, LONG TIME NO SEE!
?
RYOZO? WHAT'S WRONG?
I...
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE...!!
BIG BRO...

HMM... SO BECOMING THE 'WAN-KATA' IS NO SMALL FEAT, HUH...
SO... A TEST WITH CLAM BROTH.
BUT WHY ON EARTH WOULD HE USE A SIMPLE CLAM BROTH FOR THE TEST...
I GUESS IT WAS JUST TOO MUCH FOR RYŌZŌ AFTER ALL...
BEING THE WAN-KATA OF THE GOURMET CLUB IS A POSITION RESPECTED ACROSS ALL OF JAPAN. IT'S AN INCREDIBLE HONOR!
16
WE WON'T UNDERSTAND WHY KAIBARA YŪZAN GOT SO WORKED UP UNLESS WE TASTE THE SOUP YOU PREPARE.
ALRIGHT, RYŌZŌ-KUN, HOW ABOUT YOU MAKE US SOME OF THAT CLAM BROTH?
THERE'S GOTTA BE SOME PROFOUND REASONING BEHIND KAIBARA YŪZAN CHOOSING THOSE CLAMS, HUH?
HMM...
THAT GUY'S JUST A BULLY WHO GETS OFF ON TORMENTING THE WEAK!
PROFOUND REASONING? GIVE ME A BREAK! THERE'S NOTHING DEEP ABOUT IT AT ALL!


THAT WON'T DO AT ALL, WILL IT...
WELL...
I KNOW IT'LL NEVER MEASURE UP TO WHAT THE MASTER WOULD'VE MADE.
HONESTLY, EVEN I'M NOT CONVINCED BY THE CLAM SOUP I MADE MYSELF.
BUT TONIGHT'S OUT OF THE QUESTION—I DON'T HAVE ANY CLAMS AT MY PLACE TODAY.
JUST GIVE IT A SHOT, WILL YOU?
I GET IT, BUT I'M COMPLETELY AT A LOSS ABOUT WHAT TO DO.


UNDERSTOOD.
HOW ABOUT TOMORROW FOR LUNCH?
FINE THEN, RYOZO, GOT IT?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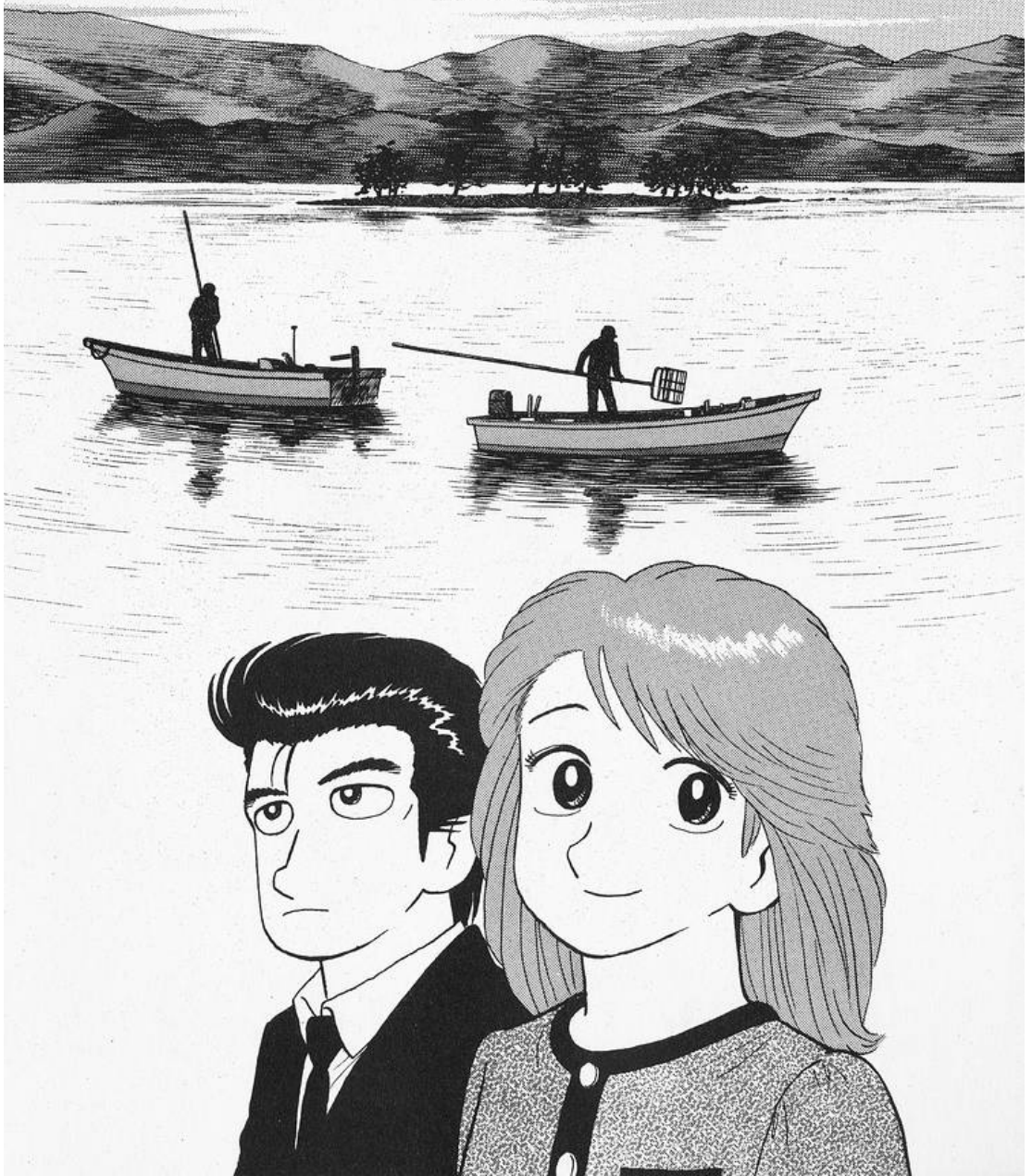
HAHA.
DON'T GIVE CARS TO THOSE IDIOTS!!
IT'S BECAUSE PEOPLE WHO DON'T NEED CARS ARE DRIVING THEM!!
WHAT A MESS OF TRAFFIC!
HI, RYOZO!
HUH?
THAT'S IT!!
18
DID YOU FIND ANY GOOD CLAMS?
I JUST WENT TO TSUKIJI TO BUY SOME CLAMS.
WE'RE JUST ABOUT TO HEAD TO OKABOSHI TOO.

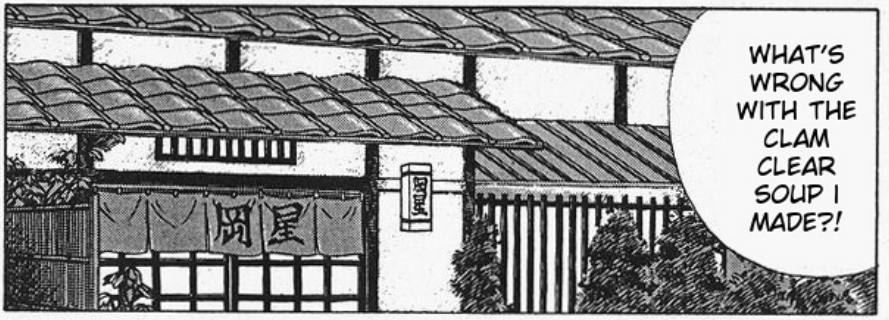
I SEE...
YET, NO MATTER WHAT, I CAN'T SEEM TO GET THE FLAVOR JUST RIGHT...
YEAH... SHIJIMI ALWAYS AIMED FOR THE VERY BEST, BOTH TIMES.
HUH...?
ANYWAY, JUST GIVE IT A TRY.
THAT'S THE ONLY WAY I CAN SEE IT...
MAYBE THERE'S SOME SECRET INGREDIENT OR A SPECIAL COOKING METHOD...
THAT'S SHIRO WITH RYOZO!
19
THAT DAMN SHIRO...
HMM...

THERE'S NOTHING MORE WE CAN DO NOW...
WE'VE SCRUTINIZED EVERY INGREDIENT—THE KELP, THE SAKE, THE WATER, EVEN THE SALT—DOWN TO THE FINEST DETAIL.
PLEASE, GIVE IT A TRY.
EVEN THE WATER... IT'S SOMETHING ELSE...
IT FEELS A BIT INTIMIDATING, DOESN'T IT...?
ALRIGHT, LET'S JUST DIVE IN AND TASTE IT.

WELL, IT LOOKS DELICIOUS!
WHY IS THAT?!!
WAIT, WHAT?!
HOW CAN YOU TELL WITHOUT EVEN TASTING A SINGLE BITE?!
AH, I GET IT NOW!!
YOU'LL NEVER PASS THE TEST LIKE THIS!!

第9話 椀方試験〈後編〉




WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE CLAM CLEAR SOUP I MADE?!

LET'S HEAD OVER TO LAKE SHINJI!

HOW CAN YOU KNOW WHAT'S WRONG? YOU HAVEN'T EVEN TASTED IT YET!

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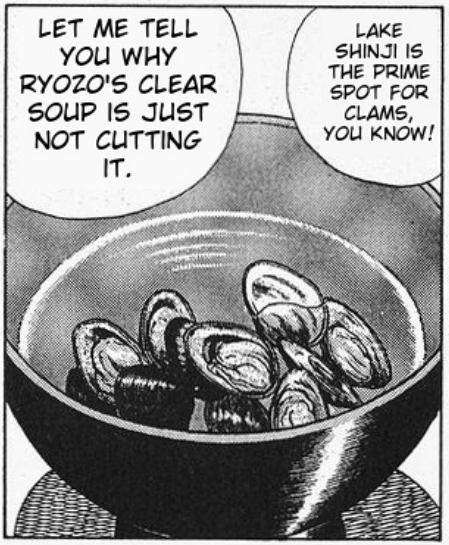
LET ME TELL YOU WHY RYOZO'S CLEAR SOUP IS JUST NOT CUTTING IT.
LAKE SHINJI IS THE PRIME SPOT FOR CLAMS, YOU KNOW!

YOU MEAN IN SHIMANE PREFECTURE?
IN MATSUE, YOU SAY?

LAKE SHINJI?

DELICIOUS!

IF I'M GOING ANYWAY, IT'S WAY BETTER TO GO AS A COMPANY TRIP –NO WORRIES ABOUT THE BUDGET!
SHINJI LAKE ISN'T JUST KNOWN FOR CLAMS; IT'S A TREASURE TROVE OF DELICIOUS TREATS!
HEHEHE...
CAN'T YOU SHARE THAT KNOWLEDGE WITH ME RIGHT HERE AND NOW?
KNOWING YOUR INSATIABLE CURIOSITY, YOU'LL BE DYING TO VISIT SHINJI LAKE AND WILL PUT YOUR ALL INTO NEGOTIATING WITH THE BOSS, RIGHT?
BINGO!
GEEZ, YOU VILLAIN!
AH?! YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO USE ME, AREN'T YOU?
ALL I NEED IS THE BOSS'S APPROVAL FOR THE BUSINESS TRIP, RIGHT!
OH FINE! I GET IT ALREADY!
HMM, DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S WRONG WITH RYOZO-KUN'S CLEAR BROTH?
3
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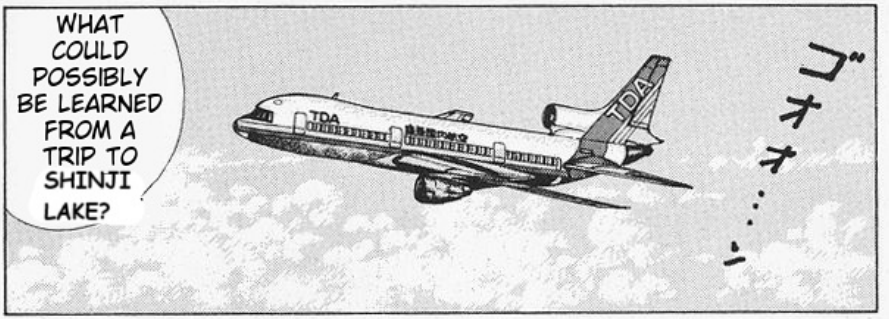
SHINJI LAKE IS FAMOUS FOR ITS 'SEVEN DELICACIES'– YOU DON'T WANT TO TRY THEM?


WHAT COULD POSSIBLY BE LEARNED FROM A TRIP TO SHINJI LAKE?
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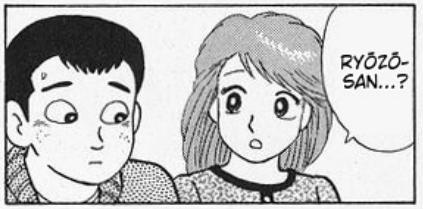

RYŌZŌ-SAN...?

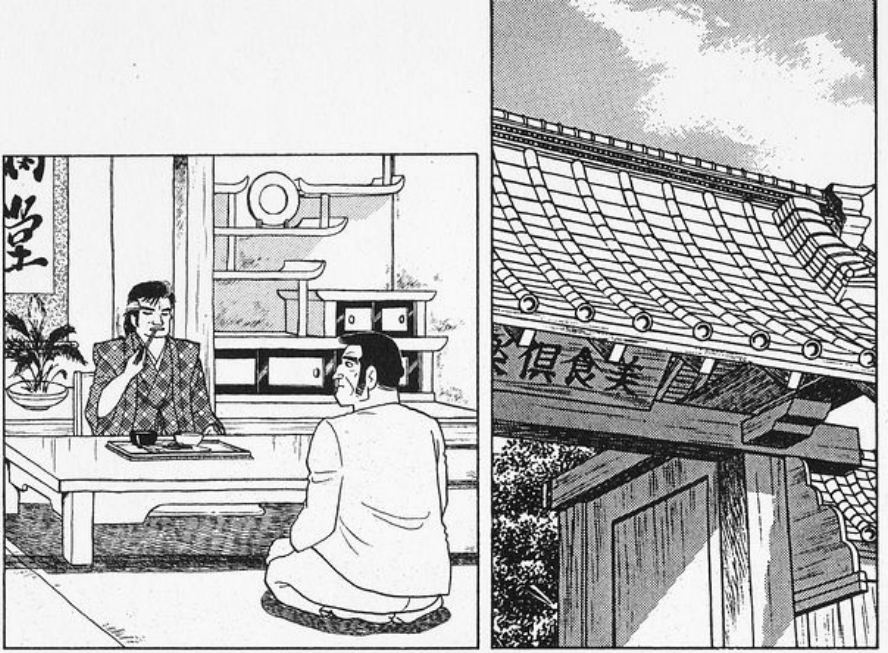
SNORE

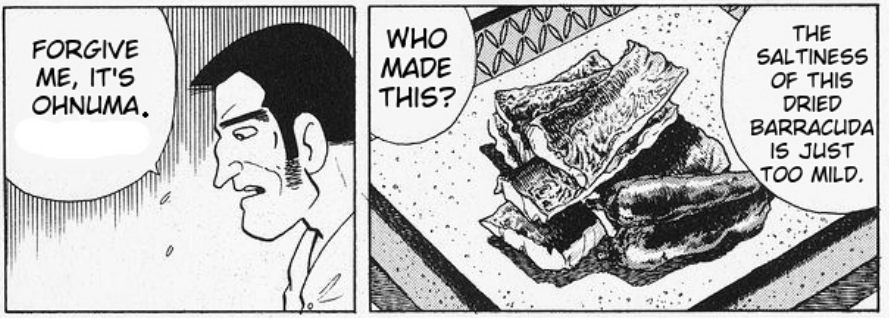
IS THERE NO WAY TO FIX THIS...?
OH DEAR, WHAT A PREDICAMENT WE HAVE...

4

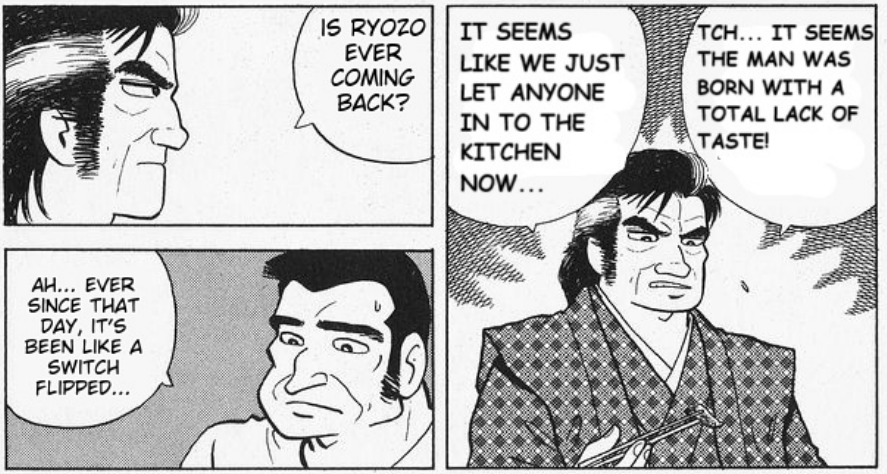
スヤ

HE TOLD ME TO CLEAN THE KITCHEN INSTEAD,
EVEN IF I DISCOVER WHAT WAS WRONG WITH MY CLEAR SOUP, I CAN'T JUST WALTZ BACK TO CHEF KAIBARA NOW.
I'VE BEEN BANNED FROM THE KITCHEN OF THE GOURMET CLUB.

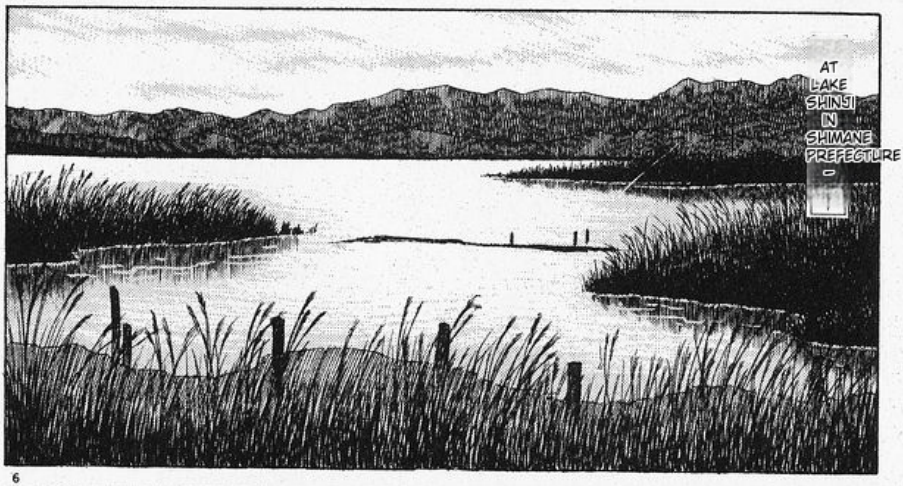



FORGIVE ME, IT'S OHNUMA.
WHO MADE THIS?
THE SALTINESS OF THIS DRIED BARRACUDA IS JUST TOO MILD.

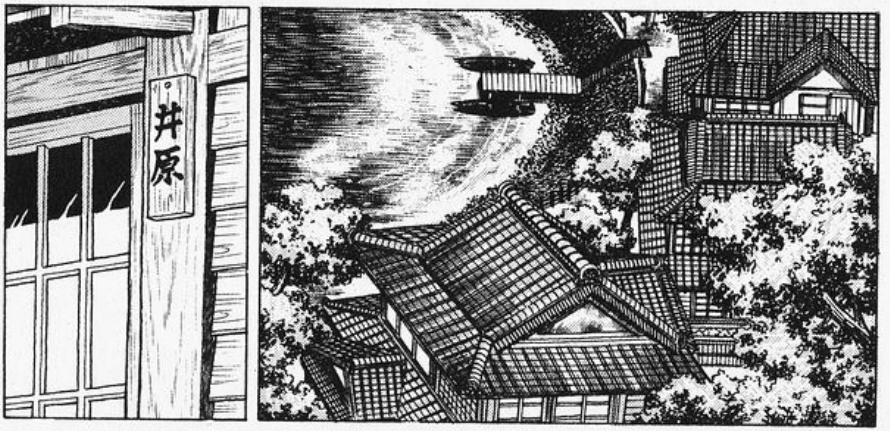
5


IS RYOZO EVER COMING BACK?
IT SEEMS LIKE WE JUST LET ANYONE IN TO THE KITCHEN NOW...
TCH... IT SEEMS THE MAN WAS BORN WITH A TOTAL LACK OF TASTE!
AH... EVER SINCE THAT DAY, IT'S BEEN LIKE A SWITCH FLIPPED...

I'M SURE THAT SHIRO FILLED HIS HEAD WITH ALL SORTS OF NONSENSE ABOUT ME!
HE WAS JUST FOOLING AROUND WITH SHIRO.
WHAT A FOOLISH GUY...


AT LAKE SHINJI IN SHIMANE PREFECTURE

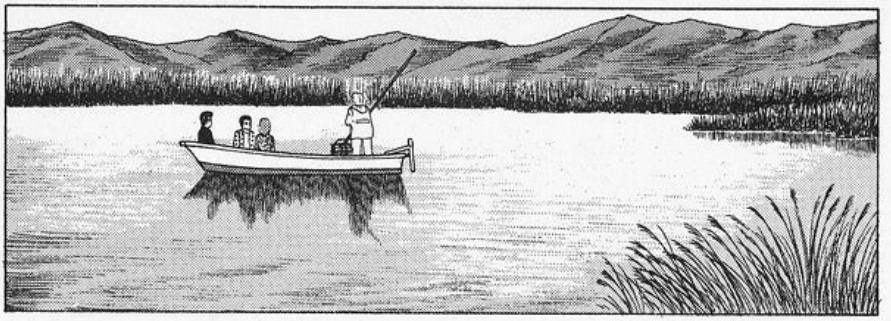
6

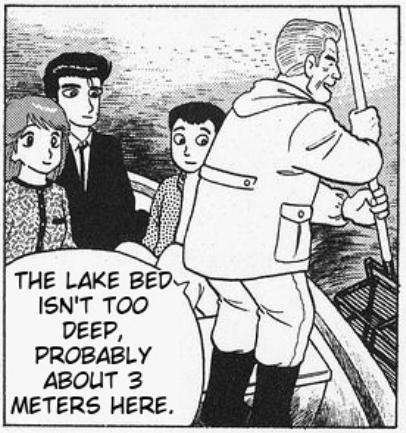

井原

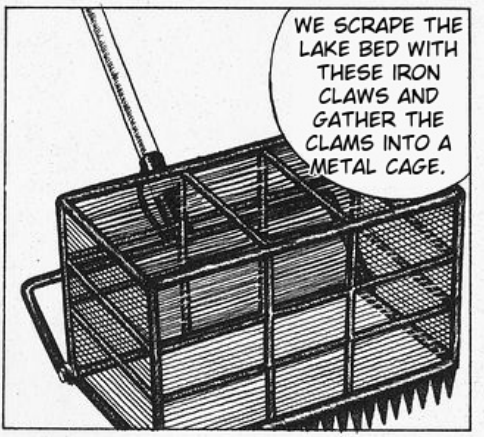
DELICIOUS!

HERE COMES MR. IHARA, THE HEAD OF THE FISHING COOPERATIVE.
COME RIGHT THIS WAY...
OH, NO WORRIES, I'VE HEARD ALL ABOUT IT!
THANK YOU FOR LETTING US DROP BY UNANNOUNCED!
OH, CAN YOU REALLY ACCESS THE PIER FROM YOUR BACKYARD?
HOW LUXURIOUS IT IS TO FISH RIGHT FROM YOUR OWN BACKYARD!

TODAY, WE HAVE A SPECIAL INTERVIEW WITH THE NEWSPAPER, SO EVEN THOUGH IT'S OFF HOURS, I'LL GRANT YOU THE PRIVILEGE OF WITNESSING THE CLAM FISHING!
ALRIGHT EVERYONE, HOP ON THE BOAT!
CLAM FISHING IS ONLY ALLOWED FOR TWO HOURS, FROM SEVEN TO NINE IN THE MORNING, YOU KNOW...




THE LAKE BED ISN'T TOO DEEP, PROBABLY ABOUT 3 METERS HERE.

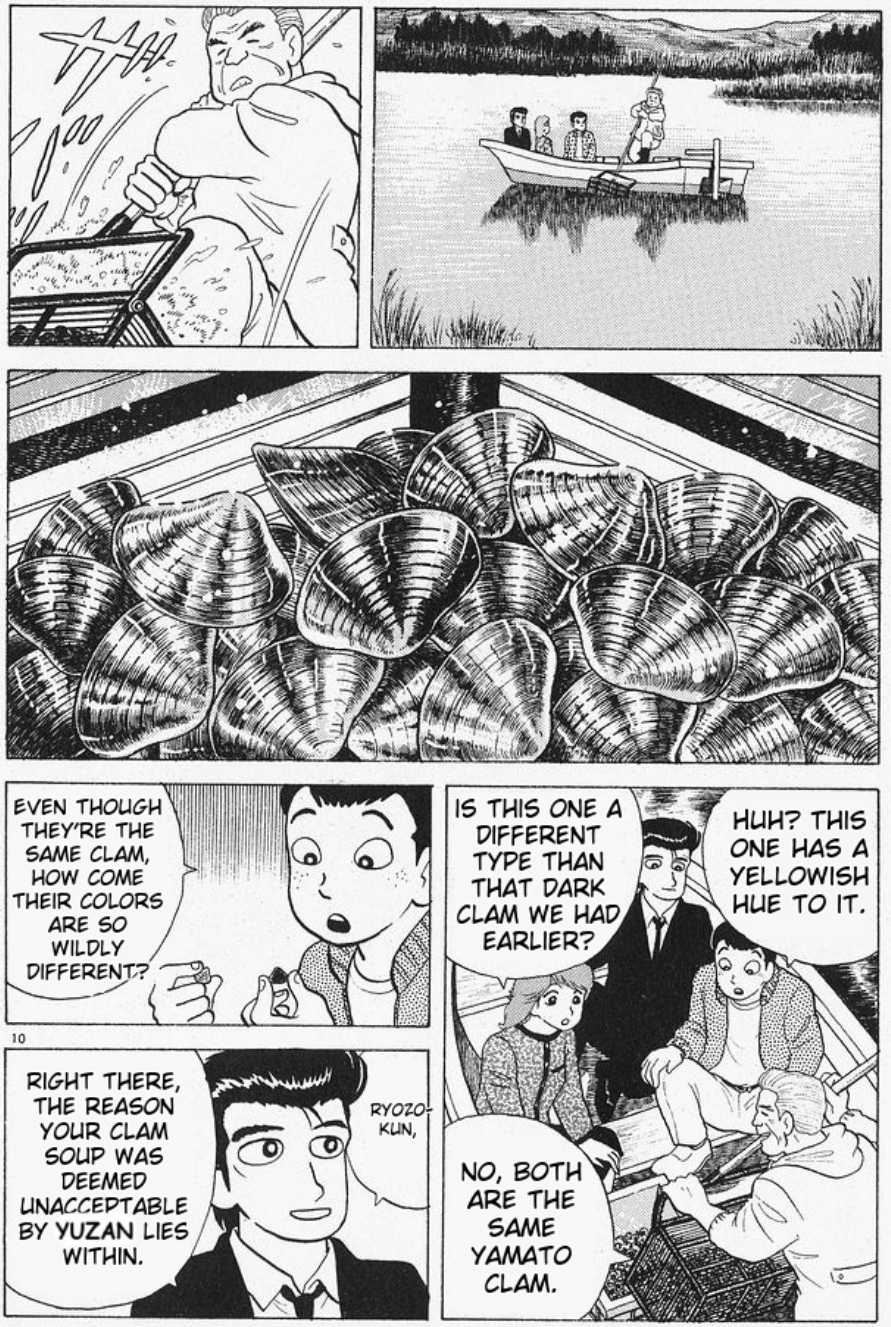

WE SCRAPE THE LAKE BED WITH THESE IRON CLAWS AND GATHER THE CLAMS INTO A METAL CAGE.

SINCE THE CLAMS STAY FRESH, THEY CAN FETCH A PRETTY PENNY.
IT TAKES A WHILE WHEN YOU DO IT BY HAND, BUT,

THIS REALLY REQUIRES SOME MUSCLE.
WOW...

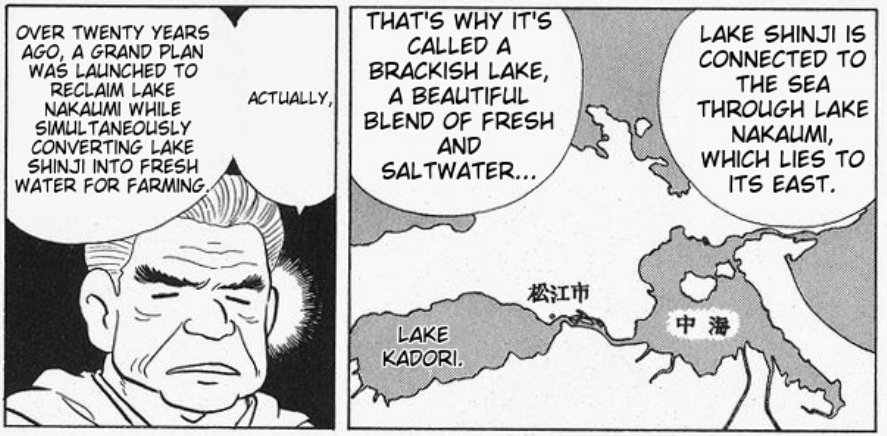
STOPPING THE BOAT AND USING SHEER HUMAN STRENGTH IS WHAT WE CALL HAND DREDGING.
IF YOU LET THE BOAT GLIDE AND SCOOP WHILE THE ENGINE'S RUNNING, THAT'S CALLED MECHANICAL DREDGING.

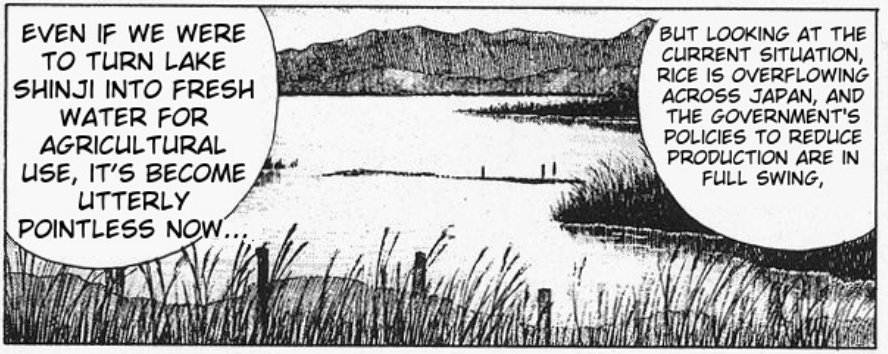
WHOA, I CAUGHT ONE!!
JUST LIKE THAT, SO MUCH IN ONE GO!!
ON TOP OF THAT, WE'RE EVEN RELEASING JUVENILE CLAMS INTO PLACES LIKE KASUMIGAURA AND THE TONE RIVER IN KANTO!
EVEN WITH AROUND 80 UNION MEMBERS HARVESTING DAY IN AND DAY OUT, THE CLAMS JUST KEEP COMING BACK AND NEVER RUN DRY!
EACH PERSON IS ALLOWED TO COLLECT UP TO 150 KG A DAY,
バラバラ
9
NOW, LET'S CHANGE THE SCENE...
OH, LAKE SHINJI IS TRULY BLESSED WITH SUCH BOUNTIFUL NATURE!!
WOW, I'M SO SURPRISED!!


EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE THE SAME CLAM, HOW COME THEIR COLORS ARE SO WILDLY DIFFERENT?
10
RIGHT THERE, THE REASON YOUR CLAM SOUP WAS DEEMED UNACCEPTABLE BY YUZAN LIES WITHIN.
RYOZO-KUN,
IS THIS ONE A DIFFERENT TYPE THAN THAT DARK CLAM WE HAD EARLIER?
HUH? THIS ONE HAS A YELLOWISH HUE TO IT.
NO, BOTH ARE THE SAME YAMATO CLAM.

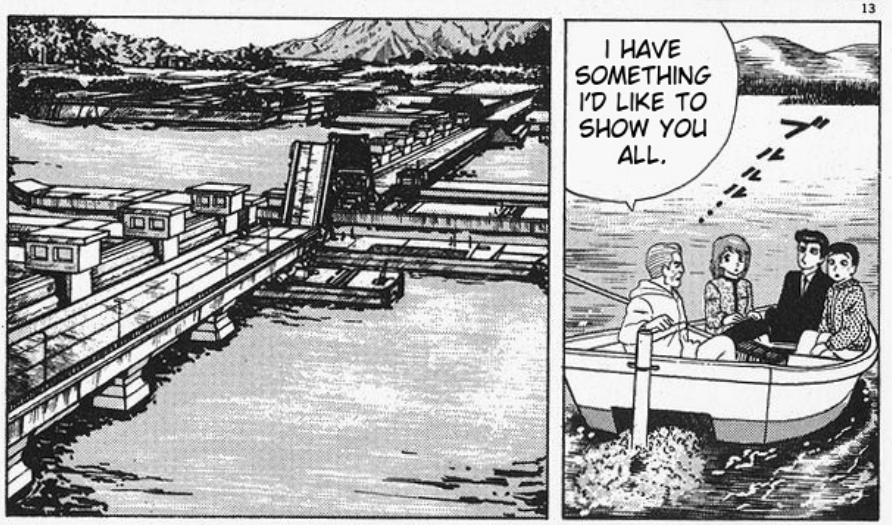
EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE BOTH YAMATO CLAMS, THEIR COLORS CHANGE DEPENDING ON WHERE YOU FIND THEM...
IS THERE A SECRET HIDDEN IN THIS COLOR?!
HUH?!
AND THOSE YELLOWISH ONES? THEY'RE THE CLAMS THAT PREFER THE SANDY SHORES.
THE BLACK ONES THRIVE IN THE MUD.
AT THE BOTTOM OF LAKE SHINJI, THERE ARE SPOTS OF BOTH MUD AND SAND,
IN KANSAI, THE YELLOW ONES ARE CHERISHED, WHILE IN KANTO, THE BLACK ONES ARE THE FAVORITES. IT'S A CLASSIC TALE OF REGIONAL TASTES!
EXACTLY!
MUD AND SAND...
11
CLAMS THAT DWELL IN THE MUD MUST SURELY TASTE MORE EARTHY THAN THOSE LIVING IN THE SAND!!
AH-HA! I'VE GOT IT NOW!!

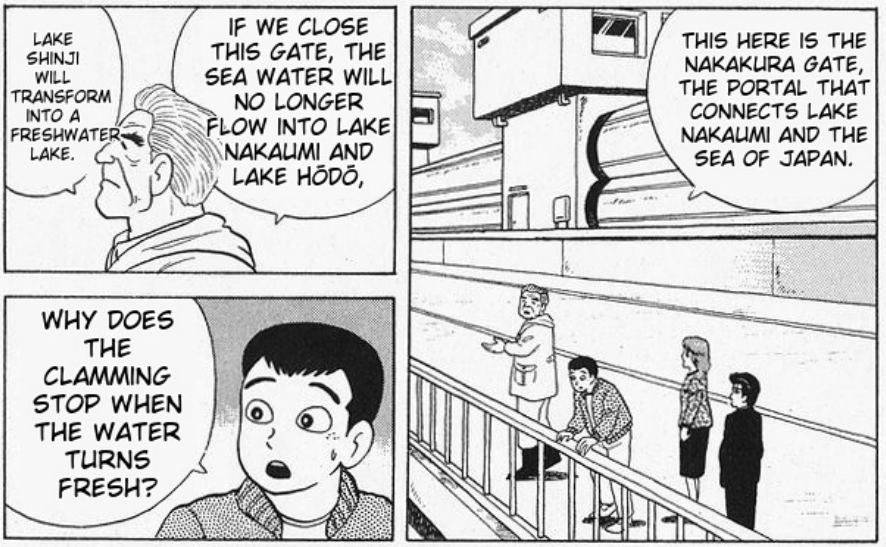
HE USED THE YELLOWISH CLAMS AND YOU USED THE BLACK ONES.
SO, THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED...
IN A CLAM SOUP, THEIR MUDDY FLAVOR CAN BE OFF-PUTTING, LEAVING IT LESS THAN REFRESHING.
HOWEVER, WHILE A MISO SOUP CAN HANDLE A MUDDY TASTE,
HE WAS HOPING I WOULD REALIZE THAT EVEN A SEEMINGLY SIMPLE CLAM SOUP CAN TASTE DIFFERENT BASED ON HOW YOU CHOOSE YOUR CLAMS...
WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT, THE TEACHER ALWAYS EMPHASIZED THAT THE CHOICE OF INGREDIENTS IS PARAMOUNT IN COOKING...
12
THAT BLACK CLAM MIGHT SOON BE A DELICACY WE CAN'T SAVOR ANYMORE.
YOU ALL SAY THAT, BUT,
HUH...?!
AND I FAILED!
IT'S THAT OBNOXIOUS TEST FROM KAIBARA THAT'S TO BLAME!!
IN KANTO, WE ONLY HAVE BLACK CLAMS AVAILABLE AT THE MARKET, SO WHAT CAN WE DO!
BUT STILL...


OVER TWENTY YEARS AGO, A GRAND PLAN WAS LAUNCHED TO RECLAIM LAKE NAKAUMI WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY CONVERTING LAKE SHINJI INTO FRESH WATER FOR FARMING.
ACTUALLY,
THAT'S WHY IT'S CALLED A BRACKISH LAKE, A BEAUTIFUL BLEND OF FRESH AND SALTWATER...
LAKE SHINJI IS CONNECTED TO THE SEA THROUGH LAKE NAKAUMI, WHICH LIES TO ITS EAST.
松江市
中海
LAKE KADORI.


EVEN IF WE WERE TO TURN LAKE SHINJI INTO FRESH WATER FOR AGRICULTURAL USE, IT'S BECOME UTTERLY POINTLESS NOW...
BUT LOOKING AT THE CURRENT SITUATION, RICE IS OVERFLOWING ACROSS JAPAN, AND THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES TO REDUCE PRODUCTION ARE IN FULL SWING,

13

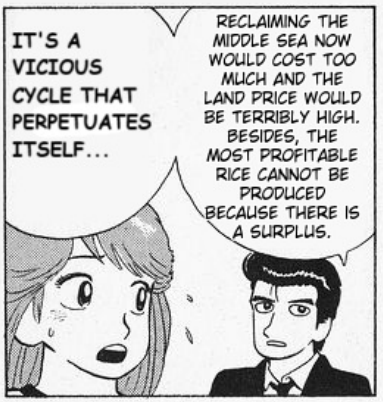

I HAVE SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO SHOW YOU ALL.

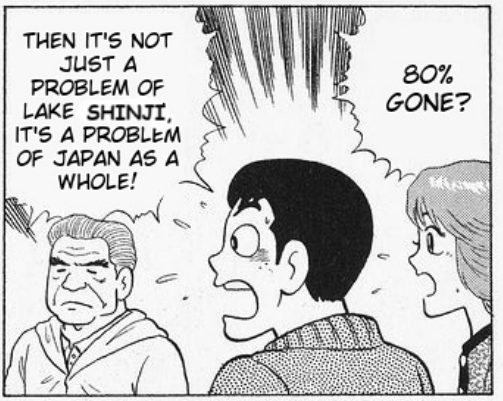

LAKE SHINJI WILL TRANSFORM INTO A FRESHWATER LAKE.
IF WE CLOSE THIS GATE, THE SEA WATER WILL NO LONGER FLOW INTO LAKE NAKAUMI AND LAKE HŌDŌ,
THIS HERE IS THE NAKAKURA GATE, THE PORTAL THAT CONNECTS LAKE NAKAUMI AND THE SEA OF JAPAN.
WHY DOES THE CLAMMING STOP WHEN THE WATER TURNS FRESH?

BUT WHEN THE WATER TURNS FRESH, THE CONCENTRATION INSIDE THE EGGS BECOMES HIGHER THAN THE SURROUNDING WATER. THUS, FOLLOWING THE PRINCIPLE OF OSMOSIS, WATER SEEPS INTO THE EGGS...
THE MOST ABUNDANT YAMATO CLAMS HARVESTED FROM LAKE SHINJI ARE FERTILIZED WHEN MALES SPRINKLE THEIR SPERM OVER THE EGGS LAID BY FEMALES.

14

ULTIMATELY, THAT MEANS 80% OF THE CLAMS AVAILABLE NATIONWIDE WILL VANISH.
IF THE YAMATO CLAMS OF LAKE SHINJI GO EXTINCT, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO SEND YOUNG CLAMS TO OTHER REGIONS,
AS A RESULT, THE EGGS SWELL AND BURST.

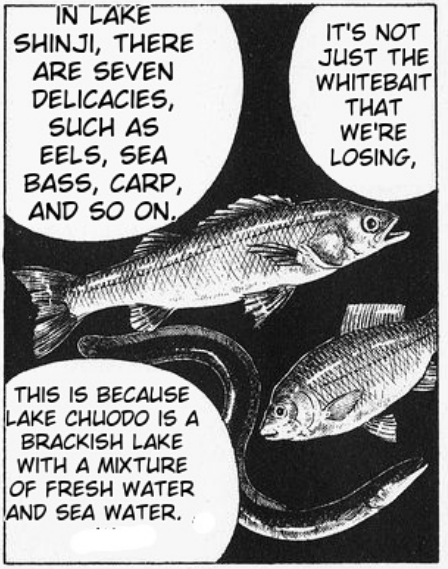

IT'S A VICIOUS CYCLE THAT PERPETUATES ITSELF...
RECLAIMING THE MIDDLE SEA NOW WOULD COST TOO MUCH AND THE LAND PRICE WOULD BE TERRIBLY HIGH. BESIDES, THE MOST PROFITABLE RICE CANNOT BE PRODUCED BECAUSE THERE IS A SURPLUS.


THEN IT'S NOT JUST A PROBLEM OF LAKE SHINJI, IT'S A PROBLEM OF JAPAN AS A WHOLE!
80% GONE?

THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW TRYING TO FORCE THROUGH SOMETHING THAT NO LONGER MAKES ANY SENSE, JUST TO SAVE ITS REPUTATION THAT IT HAS SPENT SO MUCH MONEY TO IMPLEMENT THE PLAN. ,.
THE LAND THAT HAS BEEN RECLAIMED AND THE WATER FOR AGRICULTURE THAT CAN BE OBTAINED BY DESALINATING LAKE SHINJI ARE NOW MEANINGLESS. ,.

15

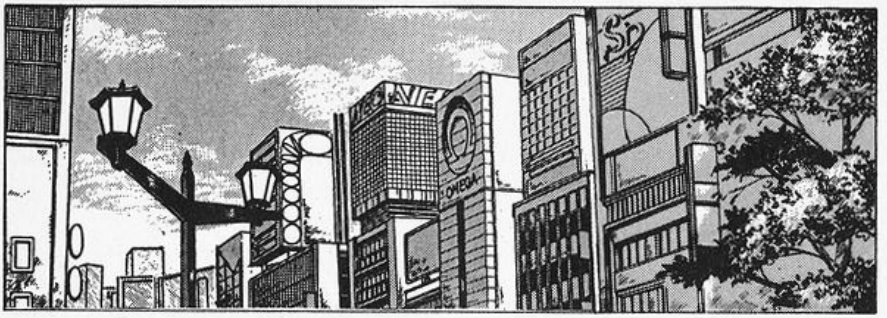
IT'S RIDICULOUS THAT WE HAVE TO LOSE SO MANY THINGS FOR THE SAKE OF OUR COUNTRY'S HONOR! ,.


IN LAKE SHINJI, THERE ARE SEVEN DELICACIES, SUCH AS EELS, SEA BASS, CARP, AND SO ON.
IT'S NOT JUST THE WHITEBAIT THAT WE'RE LOSING,
THIS IS BECAUSE LAKE CHUODO IS A BRACKISH LAKE WITH A MIXTURE OF FRESH WATER AND SEA WATER.

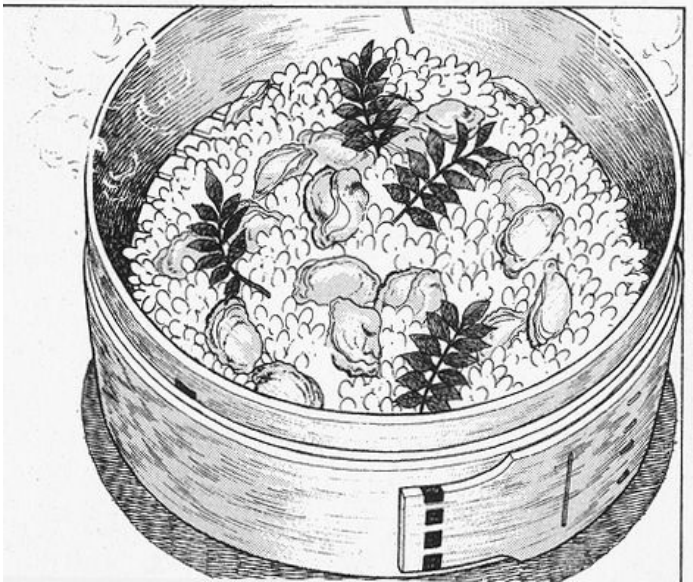
MONEY CAN BE RECOVERED AT ANY COST, BUT ONCE DESTROYED, NATURE WILL NEVER RETURN.

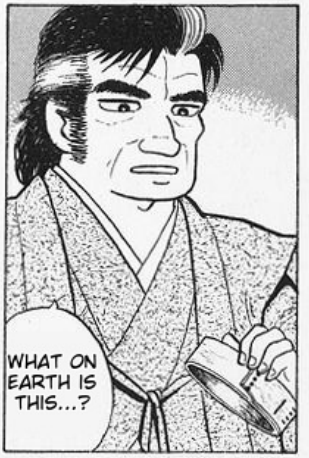
THIS IS A DISASTER...IF WE DON'T ACT, IT COULD LEAD TO AN IRREPARABLE SITUATION...
NATURE WILL NEVER RETURN TO HOW IT ONCE WAS.
EVEN IF WE TRY TO DESALINATE THE WATER AND REALIZE IT'S A MISTAKE, OPENING THE SLUICE TO LET THE SEA BACK IN TO RESTORE IT TO A BRACKISH LAKE, WELL...
WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT RYOZO-SAN TOO...
BUT,
THIS IS FAR MORE SERIOUS THAN BEING KICKED OUT BY KAIBARA-SENSEI!
16
JUST LEAVE IT TO ME...
OH, THAT'LL BE A PIECE OF CAKE...
REALLY?

DELICIOUS!


OMEGA

TODAY, YOU'LL BE INDULGING IN SOMETHING QUITE EXTRAORDINARY!

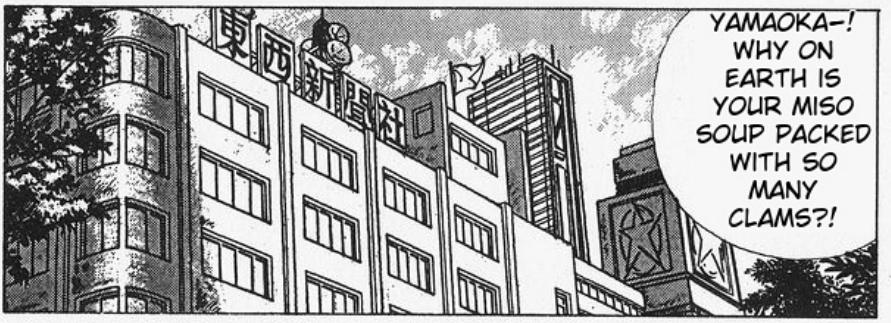


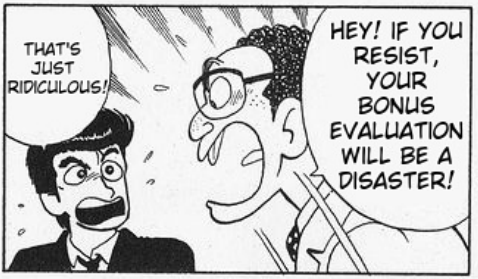

WHAT ON EARTH IS THIS...?

THE FLAVOR BALANCE AND STEAMING TECHNIQUE ARE ABSOLUTELY FLAWLESS!
HMM... ON TOP OF THE STICKY RICE, THEY PLACED THE CLAMS, DRIZZLED WITH SAKE, SOY SAUCE, AND DASHI, THEN STEAMED TO PERFECTION...
AH, I SEE... HMM... RYŌZŌ HAS COME BACK, HASN'T HE...
SENSEI!
FIRST OF ALL, WHAT ABOUT THESE CLAMS?!
SENSEI! THANK YOU SO MUCH!!
IT TOOK SOME TIME, BUT NOW THAT HE'S PASSED THE EXAM, I MUST PRESENT IT TO HIM WITH PRIDE.
NAKAGAWA, PREPARE THE VESSEL FOR RYŌZŌ.

18

19
BUT WHAT AN UNPLEASANT...
THAT DAMNED SHIRO...





'OISHINBO' VOLUME 14 - THE END -

美味(おい)しんぼ14　—母なるりんご—

ビッグコミックス

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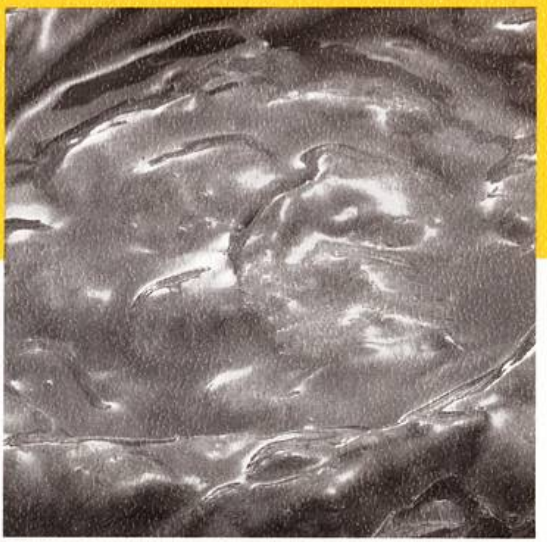

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